



THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION



NEWSLINE

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Proposed Rule Changes

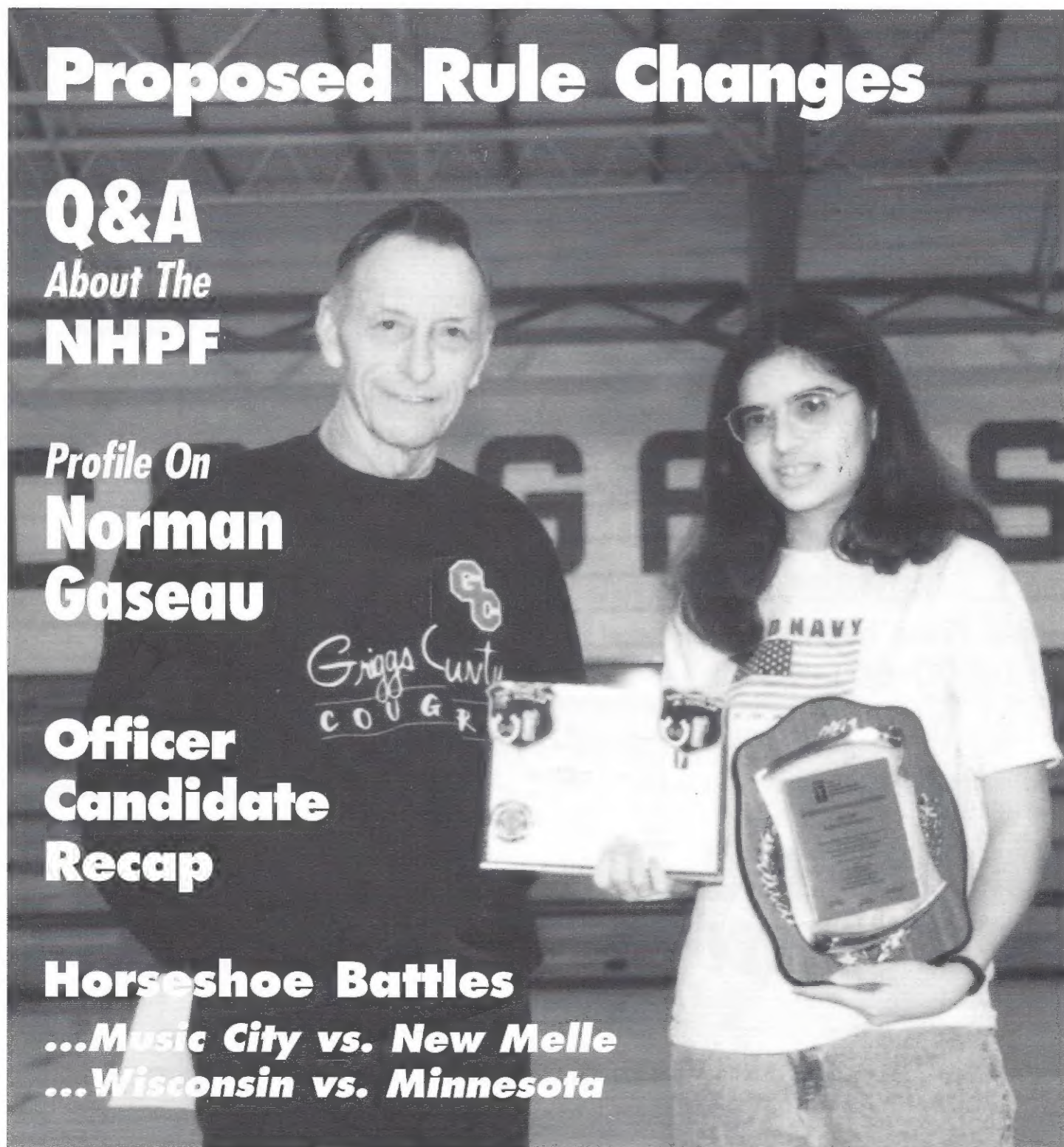
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THE NATIONAL HORSESHOE PITCHERS ASSOCIATION NEWSLINE

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ON OUR COVER

Hursha Ramaiya is presented the 1998 National Scholarship award. See story on bottom of page 18.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Unfortunately, not a single bid was submitted for the 2001 World Tournament. This was rather surprising because three sites had been in contact with us over several months indicating what we thought was rather strong interest in bidding. Many sites seek bidding information throughout the year. But, only a handful sustain interest after they learn that ours is a two week long event where they are expected to pay \$15,000 to us. Those that do carry on further discussions, such as the three sites referred to above, come to realize what our event can do for the local economy and seek to find ways to make our event profitable for the host facility.

More times than not, this becomes the stumbling block. While our event pours money into the local business economy, it seldom pays the bill let alone make a profit for the actual pitching site. Unless the city fathers can devise a way to channel funds spent at local businesses back to the hosting facility, the bidder often sees no way to recover costs. I suspect that is what happened with these three sites.

At the end May, I will once again visit the Joelton, Tennessee facility owned by Dr. Jack Freeman and currently leased by the NHPF. There are 38 courts under roof, 18 completely indoors. It is a wonderful pitching facility and the site where we plan to one day construct the NHPA Hall of Fame. This site would be available to us for the 2001 World Tournament. While there is plenty of land, most is yet unimproved. That means much

work would have to be accomplished to provide adequate auto parking spaces. There is room for RVs to dry camp but we know our mobile members would not be too happy without modest hookups for their rigs. Making RV improvements would be very expensive but from day one, we have realized that some RV hook-up sites will be necessary in our long range plans.

There are other considerations as well. Without the normal \$15,000 bid money, how does the NHPA pay the average \$15-18,000 administrative expense of setting up and running a World Tournament? Would the members allow this to come from our treasury or would they support an even larger entry fee? We have to keep in mind that the NHPF which leases the courts and pays the operating expenses will have to expect revenue from the event. Outside sponsors for horseshoe pitching events are difficult to obtain. Unless we were to find the unexpected, there is little reason to believe that a World in Joelton will have sponsors to pay the bills.

There is much to consider before we decide whether Joelton will be the site of the 2001 World. Some other NHPA Officers and NHPF Directors will be attending the Music City Team Tournament at the Jack Freeman Courts over that last weekend in May. We will meet to discuss and evaluate our options and the potential of hosting the World in Joelton two years from now. Members can expect a report at the 1999 Convention & Business meeting in Greenville.

DAVE'S COURT REPORT

■ Several clubs around the country have notified me of their intent to host a fund raiser tournament for the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPF). This could be a relatively easy way to introduce and explain the goals of the Foundation to the uninformed. It could also well serve the pitchers to know that for at least one tournament, they were making a contribution back to the sport and association that has so long served them.

■ The NHPA is happy to welcome Francis E. White, age 81, to the list of 50 year, lifetime membership. Francis, formerly of the Western Pennsylvania HPA, now lives in Ohio and will be presented his lifetime membership in that State. Francis is the father of Robert White, producer of Thoroughbred Pitching Shoes sold through the NHPA and White Distributors. Congratulations Francis.

■ The NHPF received a very generous \$5,000 contribution from James Haley of Stone Mountain, GA. The donation made in memory of his father is not the first major cash contribution to the sport that James has made. Mr. Haley a few years ago personally made a \$10,000 payment to settle the Georgia shortfall for the 1990 World Tournament. The NHPA and Georgia Charter are proud to count James Haley among their membership. Thanks Jim.

■ Last year a ceremony was held at the Luzerne County Fairgrounds in Lehman/Dallas, PA, Township dedicating the indoor courts and horseshoe building in memory of John Urbanc. John, well known in Pennsylvania horseshoe pitching

circles, tragically lost his life in January 1998 in a fire at his home. For more than 20 years, John and his pitching buddy Alvin "Peanuts" Long, worked and improved the area around the building, eventually ending up with 8 outdoor courts to accompany the 2 indoors where pitching goes on all winter. While the indoor courts were dedicated as the "John Urbanc Horseshoe Pitching Building," the Fairboard named the 8 outdoor courts in honor of Alvin "Peanuts" Long.

■ The Pennsylvania Charters are excited about the promotion work of John G. Brosky, Senior judge on the Superior Court of PA. The Honorable Judge Brosky is an avid horseshoe pitcher and member of the Dormont and Hope horseshoe clubs in Pittsburgh. Judge Brosky has spent a lot of effort promoting the sport to be included in the soon to be built Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame Museum on City Island in Harrisburg. The Judge has met with the Mayor and the Project Manager of the Sports Hall of Fame. Each gave strong assurance that horseshoe pitching will be given every consideration to be included when the museum is ready in a year or two.

■ NatStats reports that the three largest attended tournaments so far this year are the Las Vegas Open with 221 entries followed by The Valley of The Sun with 171 entrants and the Quartzsite Main Event with 164 entries. In each of these, at least 2 Canadian Provinces and 25 States were represented. The Neifert & Stafford Open in Davis, CA on 2/27/99, has pulled the largest Charter entry, 95, all from Northern California.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letter to Newline Editor,

During my years as publicity chairman for the NHPA from 1986 through 1998, it was my fondest hope that we could reach the media and receive coverage of horseshoe pitching and help to increase membership.

Thanks to NHPA President Dave Loucks, for having faith in me and giving me the opportunity to represent the NHPA. I have met many fine people since my first tournament in Huntsville, Alabama and will miss them whenever circumstances make it impossible to attend World Tournaments.

The Colorado newsletter, *The Double Ringer*, edited 18 years, will occupy some of my time, but my special interest in the NHPA will fill any void. This interest in records and record surveys will always be a part of my horseshoe life.

NHPA has been lacking in media coverage for many years, due in part to the extensive coverage of the many professional and college sports. Horseshoe tournament directors and state officers have been encouraged to make personal contact with the media in their areas. Unfortunately, this has not been done in many cases.

Having completed NHPA clipping scrapbooks for each season and World Tournaments the past 12 years, they have been sent to 1st Vice President Earl Winston to perhaps one day display in the NHPA Hall of Fame. One can tell by the number of clippings received that news coverage rates in the very low end of the scale.

NHPA membership has dropped from 14,707 in 1991 to the 1998 figure of 12,789. Membership increases must come from the grass roots areas, the local clubs who introduce new pitchers to their leagues. Club officers must help to promote our sport.

Written preliminary releases prior to every World Tournament have been sent to state officers for distribution to local newspapers. Honestly, I have never received a clipping of any of the releases.

If this personal contact were made in every community that sponsors horseshoe pitching, media coverage and membership should improve, but it takes much more than an occasional phone call to get the job done.

In closing, it has been a pleasure to serve the NHPA these past 13 years and

my life has been enriched by all my new friends. Hope to see you at the World one year. Maybe Bismarck in 2000.

Bob Champion

Thanks Bob. It has been a pleasure working with you all these years. Your service and contributions to the NHPA are sincerely appreciated. Dave

Dear Dave,

I just finished reading Ed Quigley's letter to the editor in the March/April 1999 issue of *Newline*, concerning Junior Boys Horseshoe Pitching.

His concern lies with the fact "that many boys drop horseshoe pitching when they have to abruptly move back to 40 feet and cannot make the adjustment to their satisfaction."

He's proposing Junior Boys (12 years of age and under) to pitch at 27', Intermediate Boys (13 to 16) to pitch at 32', and Senior Boys to pitch at 37'.

If Junior Boys are having difficulty with two different pitching distances, what are they going to have with three different distances?

As a junior high school lad, pitching horseshoes with my dad in our back yard, 30' was no problem at all, and I'm sure I could have pitched 50' if it was required. So, what is wrong with Junior Boys today that we're making them out to be such weaklings? I've seen alot of Junior Boys pitch and they don't look weak to me. On the contrary, most of them have to make a concentrated effort not to overthrow from 30'.

Here are three possible solutions:

1. How many times have we heard the phrase: "Let's all play the same game." I believe that applies in horseshoes as well as in other sports. Regardless of age, all Junior Boys shall pitch from 40'. This would eliminate the transition from 30' to 40' now imposed upon them when going from Junior Boys to Open Men.

2. If you still have Junior Boys that want to pitch, but cannot pitch 40', separate Junior Boys into two groups—a 30' class, and a 40' class.

3. Any Junior Boy that wants to pitch 40' can at any age, switch from Junior Boys to Open Men.

Most importantly, it is time we allowed Junior Boys the option to learn the 40' game as soon as possible.

Jay Q. Larson, Rock Island, IL

Dear Editor,

I really look forward to each copy of *Newline*. For the life of me, I can't see why members continue to not subscribe and trudge along uniformed to the continued progress of our sport. See you in Greenville.

Larry Woolace, President Ohio HPA

To Dave & the NHPF,

Sorry I've been this long getting a donation to you. This is a good cause to donate to, lots better than most of the 8-10 requests per week most of us get.

Clarence W. Giles, Riverton, Utah

Dear Editor,

The Highlands County Horseshoe Club of Sebring, Florida is happy to enclose two checks totaling \$426 as a donation to the NHPF. This money came from a special NHPF Fund Raiser tournament we held on March 17, 1999. We again challenge every club in the NHPA to follow suit.

Howard & Helen Field

Dear Editor,

On behalf of the Clearwater, Florida, Horseshoe Club, I am very pleased to submit a contribution of \$500 to the NHPF that was overwhelmingly approved by the general membership at our annual meeting. The Clearwater Club very much supports the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation.

Ron Deckard, President

To Whom it may Concern,

My 18th birthday was April 9, 1998. I appreciate receiving the funds from the trust that the NHPA set up for my winnings in World Tournament Junior play. The officers have done great things for the game of horseshoes and I'm looking forward to the World this year in Greenville. I hope that in the future, I will be able to work on the NHPA Board to put back into the sport some of what it has given me.

David Johnson, Jr., Sardinia, OH

Thanks for the kind words David. It is working in behalf of appreciative members such as yourself that the NHPA Executive Council finds satisfaction. We wish you the best of success and hope that you do one day have the opportunity to serve on the NHPA Board.

Dave Loucks, NHPA President

NHPF CONTRIBUTION UPDATE

by Dave Loucks

There has been a lot of contribution activity since our last report. Three states came through with their first donations to the Foundation. Utah, Delaware and New Hampshire. Utah's first was \$50 while the latter two were smaller and came from pitchers playing in a Florida NHPF fund raiser. That puts 42 States on record as having sent at least one donation.

There were a couple of large contributions. James Haley of Georgia sent \$5,000 in memory of his father. This jumped Georgia all the way to third place in the State standings. Jack Freeman sent \$2,000 in memory of Eugene Hix. Florida sent in eleven contributions which moved them from 18th to 7th position in the standings. Only ten states have sent in 10 or more contributions. The remaining 40 states have sent a combined total of only 120 contributions, an average of only 3 per state. This is pretty poor when you consider the membership in those states. Obviously, we have a long way to go before the majority of our membership can say that they have made a contribution.

Several continue to support the NHPF with multiple donations. Art Moran of Minnesota sends a check every month. A few are now in the habit of making quarterly donations. Some have begun annual donations. Whatever the case, the NHPF is very appreciative of those who send something and ask that others consider doing the same. You will be giving a tax deductible donation to better the sport we all want to see improve. Make your check out to the NHPF and mail to 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945.

Contributions received in February and March

Donating \$5-25

Joe Ferrau, CA
LeRoy Law, IA
Art Moran, MN
Bradford Barger, PA
Clifford Costello, CT
Wayne Luoma, Sr., OH
David Garen, FL

William Henn, KY
William Cole, GA
John Swan, FL
Albert Sniden, FL
Philip Paight, NH
Jack Miller, OH
Howard Field, FL
Albert Green, FL
Amos Lowe, OH
Eric Ray, FL
Melvin Miller, OH
Irve Swihart, MI
Harold Feasby, OH
Joseph Arick, OH
Cindy Lapsley, FL
Harold Harget, DE
Freeman Gaw, TN
Tom Westbrook, SC
Sam Carter, MO
Joe Karpel, MO
Fred Smith, MO

Donating \$30-50

Bob & Rose Diekamp, MO
Walter Ray Williams, Jr., FL
Billie Sue Pennington, FL
Arkansas HPA
Yuma HPA, AZ
West Virginia HPA
Margaret & John Byfield, WA
Bob Champion, CO
Randy Joines, NC
Dave Loucks, CA
Clarence Giles, UT

Donating \$100-150

Joseph Dolter, IA
Mel Yockstick, CO
Ross County HPA, OH
Washington State HPA
C.N.Bert Mannix, MT

Donating \$200

Tri-Valley HC, CA
Fred & Genevieve Lavett, CA
Highlands County HC, FL

Donating \$500

Clearwater HC, FL

Donating \$2,000

Jack Freeman, TN

Donating \$5,000

James Haley, GA

Joelton Court Fees Collected, \$565

Total of 337 Contributions plus Court fees, Ticket Sales & Misc. donations as of 3/28/99 \$50,597

How your state ranks in number and dollars contributed

1. Tennessee, 18 for \$13,165
2. California, 37 for \$5,214
3. Georgia, 3 for \$5,110
4. Massachusetts, 3 for \$3,925
5. Missouri, 21 for \$1,560
6. Wisconsin, 15 for \$1,238
7. Florida, 16 for \$1,125
8. North Carolina, 19 for \$1,105
9. Minnesota, 30 for \$1,090
10. Michigan, 16 for \$859
11. Ohio, 30 for \$827
12. Oregon, 9 for \$774
13. Colorado, 9 for \$662
14. Washington, 6 for \$600
15. Iowa, 7 for \$405
16. Illinois, 15 for \$375
17. Texas, 4 for \$350
18. New York, 4 for \$295
19. New Jersey, 5 for \$285
20. Pennsylvania, 9 for \$270
21. Kansas, 7 for \$246
22. Kentucky, 7 for \$225
23. Nebraska, 2 for \$194
24. Wyoming, 3 for \$182
25. Montana, 2 for \$150
26. South Carolina, 6 for \$135
27. Idaho, 2 for \$125
28. Arkansas, 3 for \$120
29. Nevada, 2 for \$115
30. West Virginia, 4 for \$105
31. Oklahoma, 3 for \$100
32. New Mexico, 1 for \$100
33. Indiana, 3 for \$90
34. Arizona, 2 for \$64
35. South Dakota, 3 for \$61
36. Virginia, 2 for \$53
37. Utah, 1 for \$50
38. Connecticut, 3 for \$34
39. North Dakota, 1 for \$30
40. Louisiana, 1 for \$25
41. Delaware, 1 for \$7
42. New Hampshire, 1 for \$5

DON'T PROCRASTINATE

Join all these supporters with your donation to the NHPF.

DO IT NOW!

REGIONAL DIRECTORS **REPORT**

by Paul Stewart

The World Tournament is just around the corner and everyone that has pitched in the WT in the past several years knows that means *it's shoe-checking time*. The RDs and ARDs will again be checking all shoes before your first pitch. You can help in the shoe checking by having your shoes checked at your local tournaments.

It is the pitcher's responsibility to correct shoes that don't meet correct weights and measurements set forth in the *NHPA Official Rules of Horseshoe Pitching*. If your charter doesn't have a measuring box, ask them to purchase one from one of the Game Related Sales Distributors listed on page 31.

We have one Regional Director change to report. **Kevin Snelgrove, Virginia** has been replaced by **Ricky Hall**. I will announce who the Regional Director of the Year will be in the next issue of *Newsline*.

From the Mailbag

Richard Archer, Arkansas RD, reports 1998 was an improvement on 1997, but the growth they had hoped for did not happen. Some areas are declining in membership. **Dierks (SWAHPA)** had an abbreviated sanctioned league play, but they still held two sanctioned tournaments, membership was down almost 50%. The **Fayetteville Club** was down in membership and turnout to the Mt. Home sanctioned tournaments was also down. The main growth was a 20% increase in the **Plumerville (CAHPA) Club**.

The outlook for 1999 is pretty good. **Rogers, AR Club** is planning to host sanctioned tournaments again. The **City of Fayetteville** has agreed to furnish water, sewer lines and electricity to the courts at Walker Park. Running water and restrooms will make Walker Park courts among the best anywhere.

The sanctioned courts at the **Eastside City Park in Ozark** have been removed. The city plans to rebuild the courts in the **Westside Park**. The Mayor has asked **George Nichols, AHPA President**, and myself to oversee the construction. We hope to complete them in time for the start of **Arkansas Valley HSP league play**. The 1999 **Arkansas State Tournament** was also awarded to **Ozark** for a bid of \$1,500 and with four other scheduled sanctioned events planned,

the moving of the **Eastside Park courts** came as a shock to the **Arkansas Valley Club members**. We will do everything in our power to have the courts ready. The plans right now are to build 24 sanctioned courts at the site.

George Nichols Jr. feels that bringing doubles play back to sanctioned events could spark membership growth and is presently lobbying clubs to consider hosting doubles events. The first **Arkansas State Co-ed Doubles Championship** was successful last year and again this year was awarded to the **Plumerville Club** where we hope for an even greater turn out than last year.

Ron Taylor, South Carolina RD, reports that the **SCHPA** is continuing to promote horseshoes by exposing the game via new locations. They have added new pitching locations three of the last five years, **Union SC** being the latest. They have received positive feedback from the **Parks and Recreation Dept. in Newberry, SC**. Director **Scott Sawyer** believes a 12 court, lighted facility is in the near future. Also, **James Island, SC**, near **Charleston**, is another location attempting to budget money for the installation of courts. They are working to host a sanctioned event on the 2000 schedule.

Allen Baptist, Colorado RD, reports many members had a busy February traveling out of state. **Colorado** had 21 entries in **Las Vegas** at the **San Remo tournament**. The following week there were 18 entries at the **Valley of the Sun Tournament in Mesa, Arizona**. **CHPA Treasurer Pam Cook** and **CHPA Statistician Mel Yockstick** decided to follow the plaque and plate plan adopted by several other charters. Most of their tournaments don't give out trophies, so there is no way to remember in what tournaments they placed. What they do is—the first tournament you place in, you receive a plaque with your name on it. From then on you receive a metal tag to hang on the plaque, that has the name of the tournament and the place you got it.

Pat Whemoff, Nebraska RD, reports that **Eastern Nebraska** has two officers for 1999—2nd VP **Boyd Hageman of Lincoln**, and **Merle Alswager of Columbus**.

Eastern Nebraska lost two pitchers this past year., **Frank Daubert** and **Beatrice Kuehn**. Frank, who dedicated

himself as a pitcher and promoter by hosting tournaments in **Fremont**, his hometown, and **Beatrice**, wife of **Richard Kuehn** who liked to compete, and played in many tournaments. We will greatly miss these friends of horseshoes. Condolences to their families.

Clint Bryson, North and South Dakota RD, reports he and two other pitchers traveled 300 miles across **South Dakota**, in January to a winter meeting and played in a two-day tournament. 16 new courts in **Pierre, SD** are complete except for the fence, which the City is expected to erect soon.

Dave Garbani, Southern California RD, reports that the last tournament held in **Ridgecrest** on **March 13** ended up being their largest ever, 40 participants. Normal count is usually 10-12. It was their first **International Tournament** as they had one entry from **Canada**—**Ken Holms**, **Don Weaver** from **Nevada**, **Gary** and **Virginia Chalberg** from **Arizona**, **Dick Flowers** from **Ohio** and eight clubs represented. The weather was great also..

Ed Quigley, New Jersey RD, reports he is in **Spring training** in **Florida** until **April**. He also reports that the 12 **Washington Township courts**, home of the **Warren County HPC** now have concrete walkways a full 6' wide. This feat was accomplished thanks to the generosity of the **Washington Township Recreation Committee**, some club funds and a tremendous physical effort by **Gene Castner**, **Chet Smolenski**, **Bill MacIntyre**, **Bob Lobell**, and **Doc Wasser**. **Ann Marie MacIntyre** was so impressed by the expertise and effort of the work party that she recorded the event on film as a source of information, inspiration and help to others.

Bill MacIntyre and **Gene Castner** are the Directors for two series of winter tournaments at the **Harmony Fairgrounds**. The barn-like facility includes four courts, concrete flooring and heating equipment. When shoes hit the stakes in this all-metal **Harmony Hut**, heads turn on the nearby highway.

The **West Essex Handicap Horseshoe Club (West Caldwell, NJ)** celebrated its 21st year of pitching in 1998. The 50+ members, 50 shoes, countall club also celebrated its 10th year in the **NHPA Sanctioned League Program**. **Paul Stille** has been elected President of the club every year. Can anyone top that?!

FOCUS ON PROMOTION

Promotion Can Translate Into Spruce-Up Our Sport

by Bob Dunn

Change comes hard for our sport. It is human nature to resist change, to be comfortable in routine, but far too often the statement is heard, "Well that's the way we've always done it."

We all love our sport, and are very comfortable in how things are going and being done. However, if all continues in the same manner, our sport and our organization is in risk of becoming stagnate, and recruiting will become even more difficult. The general public currently views horseshoe pitching as an old-fashioned sport and rather dull. There will be a day, that in order to just maintain our membership, we need to spruce-up our sport—put a bit of pizzazz into the game.

The 1997 Convention had a good opportunity to offer some change to our sport by voting for true cancellation as a scoring option. It was a harmless proposal that would have been a nice step forward to speed up our game and avoid some of the nuisance delays that distract from spectator appeal. The proposal was reasonable in that it was a scoring option, leaving the traditional methods in place for those that prefer to stay the same. The member delegates at that convention proved every psychologist in the world correct, by staying with the way we have always done it and voting down a chance to spruce-up our sport.

Other sports have made changes to scoring methods. Basketball brought in the time clock and the three-point basket. Football has had rule changes and a two-point conversion to appeal to the spectators. Again, to bring in true cancellation as a legitimate scoring option would have been a reasonable rule change. But all is not lost, for we can have another opportunity to approve that change in 2000.

What else can be addressed in sprucing-up our sport? There are major areas and most come under the heading of *financial*.

The initial step for any form of improvement, is the personal investment in our sport. This is a simple formula—the higher the investment, the higher the commitment and better public image will follow. For example, our dues should be increased to

include a *Newsline* subscription to each household. We all know the purpose, reasons and value of this change and believe me, it will be the initial indicator of a player's commitment.

Another major step is to financially support the potential of our NHPF. Whether it happens through voluntary contributions or through other forms of allocation—it needs to happen. Our image as a sport will be enhanced through the presentation of a NHPA Hall of Fame exhibit and the promotion opportunities through the financial capability of the NHPF.

There will always be horseshoe pitchers that will not have the interest for this commitment, but the NHPA membership must be the organization that does maintain the supreme level of commitment. Our future members will appreciate being part of a stronger organization.

Larger prize money is another issue that deserves attention. There are many ways for this to take place, but the results of larger tournament purses will bring large dividends. This will take financial investment by the members who are committed to the progression of the sport. Larger purses to the upper skill levels will bring a revived commitment to become a higher skill level player.

Our sport presently provides competition for any and all skill level. That is one of the strong features of our NHPA organization and should continue, but the awards for excellence should be greater than the awards for mediocrity. This change will take place, only through the investment and commitment of the NHPA membership, sponsorship will follow, and the rewards available to only NHPA members.

Game rules and formats are in need for review. Not so much in leagues, for format needs to remain to the convenience of league statisticians. Tournament formats need to be spruced up. Just consider the overwhelming percentage of tournaments that are based on 50 shoe games or point limits with cancellation scoring, tournament after tournament, year after year. There are regions that do veer from the set 50 shoe games, but there is the repeti-

tious format of tournaments in those areas also. There is need for change, some pizzazz, for players and for the potential spectatorship. Spectators will come when the tournament champion can win a purse of \$1,000 or more. Players will re-dedicate their practice to rise to a level of qualifying for the upper classes and a chance for meaningful earnings. This is all possible and probable, but spectators will not return if the games continue to be long or have boring interruptions to the flow.

Horseshoe pitching may always remain a casual sport or recreation activity for the masses of the public. That also needs to remain in the backyard or at picnics or in the tavern leagues. The NHPA needs to assume and maintain a prominence as the supreme level of the sport, in skill level and presentation.

Golf and bowling give us another example of successful sports. Look at golf and bowling as presented on television. Our sport should have the same appearance each time there is some film clip presented on television. It would just demonstrate that we are no longer "Barnyard Golf," but a sport to be respected.

In fact, if you view photos of major pitching events from the 1920s and 30s, the players were all in dress slacks and dress shirts and most wore ties. That certainly is not the case today. At local tournaments, it is not unusual to see players in torn work shirts, even an occasional barefoot pitcher. The standard of dress does improve in the major tournaments, but even at the World Tournament there are players in blue jeans, and some outfits that more closely resemble a costume. All are within the dress code guidelines for they wear lettered shirts. But there is a need to review our dress code if we are to spruce up our sport.

What else will help spruce-up our sport and add some pizzazz for public appeal? What else will raise our level in the public eye for easier recruiting? What else will raise more opportunities for national sponsorship? What else will raise more interest for media coverage as a sport? Give it some thought and let's hear from you.

PROMOTION PROFILE



NORMAN GASEAU
CLEARWATER, FLORIDA

Following a military career, Norm Gaseau retired in 1969 and became a resident of Clearwater, FL. He, along with seven other horseshoe pitchers, organized the Clearwater Horseshoe Club.

Under Norm's leadership, the Clearwater Club has conducted sanctioned tournaments every year and the club was one of the nation's initial clubs to join the NHPA Sanctioned Club program. The Clearwater Club still participates in the program.

Major events were initiated by Norm, such as the first ever Men and Women's World Championship Invitational Tournament conducted at the Clearwater courts in 1981. Six Men's World Champions and six Women's World Champions competed in a 3-day tournament that attracted horseshoe fans from throughout the state. The NHPA awarded the club an Achievement Award that year for conducting the event.

In 1982, Norm initiated a U.S. Open Tournament, which was open to all NHPA members nationwide. Top players entered this tournament, including 3 Men's World Champions. A local TV station taped the Championship Men's finals and Senior Men's finals, with Norm handling the commentary. The four-hour tape was televised twice in the Tampa Bay area. For this accomplishment, Norm received

an NHPA Achievement Award.

Gaseau has arranged several sanctioned tournaments, which were held at the annual Florida State Fair. Several attractions were arranged for these events by inviting World Champion pitchers to compete in match play during the tournaments.

Norm's interests have not been limited to club activities. In 1975, he was elected to serve as Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida State Horseshoe Pitchers' Association. Norm immediately recognized that the State Association was functioning with a complete lack of funds and with no bylaws for direction. He drafted bylaws, which were adopted in his first year in office. He set up a Game Related Sales organization which provided that all profits from the operation were accrued to the State Association. In later years, he negotiated an agreement with the NHPA to effect that the Florida Association was granted permission to expand its Game Related Sales activities to service the needs of 13 southeastern states as an NHPA Sales Distributor. This arrangement continues today and is the only NHPA Game Related Sales operation in the nation where profits are assigned back to a recognized state association rather than an individual.

When Norm first came into that office, there was no requirement that players entering State sanctioned tournaments hold NHPA cards. A State membership was the only requirement to enter a tournament. Recognizing that the NHPA was receiving little support from the State Association, he proposed that all players entering sanctioned tournaments hold State and NHPA membership cards. This requirement was adopted long before the NHPA established its Regional Director Program to enforce NHPA membership on sanctioned tournaments.

Norm served ten years as Secretary/Treasurer of the Florida Association and left the state treasury with a surplus exceeding \$10,000 and a

Author's Note—Previous requests have been made for profiles of promoters of our sport. The response has been next to very slow. Do look about your charter, select a member deserving of national recognition and take the time to write up information of their contribution of effort. Mail it to this writer's address. This issue, we have a profile of a truly great supporter of horseshoe pitching—not only great in effort, but great in results.—Bob Dunn

membership of approximately 300. He continued to serve as the State Association First Vice President for the next ten years.

In 1979, Norm was inducted into the Florida State Horseshoe Pitchers Hall of Fame.

In 1990, the Florida State Association authorized the establishment of a Hall of Fame exhibit at the Clearwater Clubhouse and chose Norm Gaseau to lead the project. With the help of the club members, the exhibit was dedicated in February 1991. The Clearwater Mayor and City Council Members participated in the dedication ceremony as well as all living Hall of Fame members and surviving spouses. The March/April 1993 issue of the NHPA *Newsline* magazine, cited the Florida HPA Hall of Fame facility as one of the best throughout the NHPA. This is truly a tribute to Norm's effort to provide the very best for its honored Hall of Fame members.

In 1994, Norm negotiated an interest-free loan of \$21,000 from the City of Clearwater which was needed to finance improvements at the Clearwater Club horseshoe complex. This loan will be completely repaid on April 1, 1999, and the Club is financially sound, thanks to Norm's efforts and financial ability.

Now at age 86, Norm continues to serve the NHPA, the Florida Association and the Clearwater Club. He is Chairman of the Florida Hall of Fame Committee, Administrator of the Florida Hall of Fame Exhibit and has carried on an exchange program with Earl Winston, Chairman of the NHPA Hall of Fame Committee, whereby they have exchanged material for exhibit. As state historian, Norm is compiling history of the Florida State Association and still serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Clearwater Horseshoe Club.

This is certainly a lifetime of contribution and achievement by Norm Gaseau, and he is still working to promote our sport!

THE JUNIOR WINDOW

Two Brothers, Two State Champions

by Lorraine Sternberg

The Benefits of the NHPA Sanctioned League Program for Juniors

This is the time of year when summer leagues are starting. It's also the time to review the Sanctioned League Program where Juniors are involved, so they receive all the benefits of the program.

If your club has approximately ten or more Juniors, it is best to set up a separate Sanctioned Jr. League. If this is not possible, Juniors are allowed to pitch in a Sanctioned Adult League. Remember, you must fill out a separate form for Juniors. This is important, so all Juniors are reported for the correct Top Ten category. All Juniors should be listed on this report. When sending in any reports to the National Director, be sure to state Juniors separate from the adults.

Review of the Junior Scholar Pitcher Awards Program

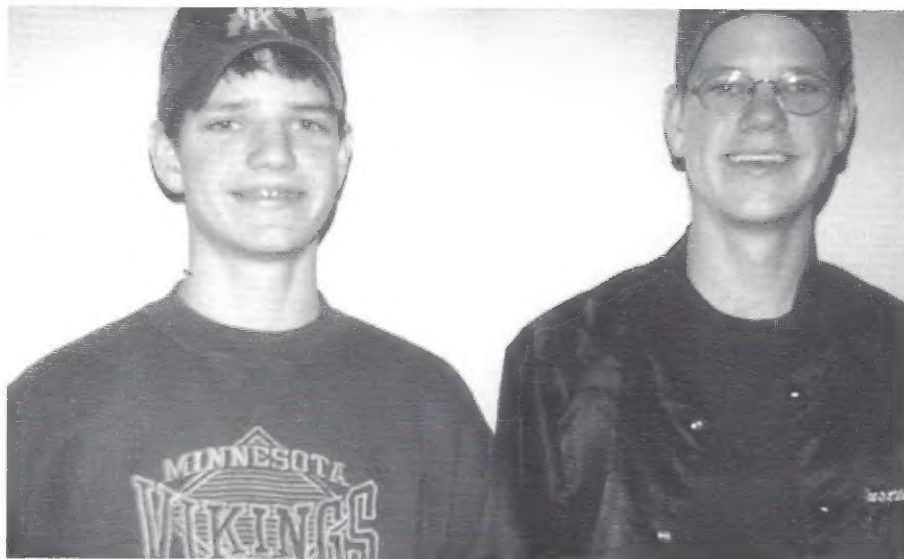
This program has been set up to encourage our young to attain their high-est goals possible in the classroom as well as on the horseshoe courts. Those eligible are any youngsters who pitch in a sanctioned league from at least 30' and hold a current NHPA card.

You must be in grades 7 through and including 12. Middle School, Jr. High or Sr. High School. You must be a minimum of 12 years of age and no older than 18.

All Junior members shall be required to pitch a minimum of two-thirds of all scheduled matches, or be a scorekeeper in the same amount of matches. The youngster must maintain a scholastic grade point average of 3.00 or above on a scale of 4.00, 85% or above on a scale of 100%, or average equal to a B or above. The GPA must be for the entire school term.

The required form must be in by Nov. 1 of the year in which the school term was completed. Forms are available from the National Director. All those maintaining a GPA of B or above shall be recognized.

If you would like a more detailed explanation of these programs, you can get it from the Red Book which can be obtained from myself or the Sanc. Lg. Director.



The two Dahl boys from Wisconsin now each have a State Title after their name. This past September at the State Tournament, Barrent beat his brother Dustin, the defending Champion to win the title. Both ended with nearly identical ringer percentage (68.7 and 68.5%).

Barrent and Dustin are becoming familiar with the World Tournament, their first being at Kitchener, where both pitched in Class B. Dustin finished in 2nd place with 56.17% and Barrent in 11th place, averaging 36.54%. This past year in Nebraska, Dustin pitched in Class A finishing with 61.5% and Barrent in Class B at 57.83%. But for both boys, the friends they have made in the past two years at the World Tournament has been the most rewarding part.

Barrent and Dustin started pitching at a very young age (Barrent at 6 and Dustin, around 8), Dad, being pretty much their coach. Chris, their older brother also helped encourage them to pitch. The two boys say they never practice together. Dustin tries to practice every day and Barrent gets some practice in about three times a week.

Dustin's advice to share with others is to stay cool, enjoy the game and don't let your emotions get the best of you while pitching. Barrent says never

give in if you're winning or losing.

It seems both boys share in their most memorable experience in horseshoes and that is winning the State Title, Dustin in 1997 and Barrent in 1998.

Although these two boys live in Trempealeau, Wisconsin, which is very close to the Minnesota border, they do cross the line for some things, as you can see in the picture.

These brothers have become a great asset for Wisconsin horseshoes. Through the years, Wisconsin has ranked among the top with families pitching together. Although there are too many to mention everyone, a few of the top Junior pitchers from Wisconsin have hit the top. They are Debby Bestul, 1984, 85, 87, 88; Heidi Sternberg, 1994; and Penny Steinke, 1995 and 96, all winning the title of Junior Girls World Champion.

It's through families pitching horseshoes together that will keep this game alive. It's also a fun thing to do together as a family.

If you have a Junior or Junior league you would like to profile, drop me a line:

Lorraine Sternberg horshoewi@aol.com
W206 N13520 Woodside Lane
Richfield WI 53076

Border Battle

WISCONSIN VS. MINNESOTA

by Jim Haupt

WISCONSIN WINS! 70-58 over a well-represented Minnesota team of 16 pitchers, a few former World Champions included.

The teams met at the Arena Sandbar in Wisconsin. The home state also provided 16 of their best pitchers. They were further divided in two groups, short and full distance pitchers, but competition for bragging rights was based on total wins of both groups as a unit. The Sandbar boasts eight indoor clay courts, but suddenly it seemed only half enough. Games were played in sets of four alternating divisions.

After four games, despite Gert Wilczek's 82.5% and Clayton Gage's 90% games for WI, the MN 30s were two wins up. The WI 40s made up the difference in their first attempt with Randy Rein at 87.5% and Don Kangas at 85%. Dale Lipovsky, World Champ x3 of Minnesota, trying to stop the bleeding, turned in his game of 85%, but at halftime Wisconsin had a four game lead. The final four games for each division would put players head to head as seeded. The Minnesota 30s took the courts for the third quarter and instantly dropped two more then

in one game, taking seven of eight wins, they evened the battle. However, Wisconsin rallied, turning the outcome over to their forty footers, still two games up. The Wisconsin 40s won going away, picking up eight games in the last two rounds, overshadowing Dale Lipovsky's 90% final game. Lipovsky tossed the high tournament average of 77.81% while Randy Rein of the Wisconsin team was the only pitcher to win all his games.

For the unofficial record, the Minnesota short distance team did their job by a four-game margin. Surprisingly, the Wisconsin 40s outdid their Minnesota counterparts by 16 games—40 to 24.

It was an all day affair, about nine hours before awards were made by NHPA Secretary/Treasurer Dick Hansen. Minnesota President and team representative Dick Dvorak had the task of awarding the total entry money of \$800 to Randy Rein, Wisconsin team representative in charge of player procurement for this event. Dvorak, in his best presidential voice acknowledged the hospitality of Dave Forseth, owner of the Arena Sandbar, all the players and the Wisconsin organization. The trophy was presented by Ken Koskey, Publisher of the *Wisconsin Horseshoe*

Newsletter. The Border-Battle plaque and minor expenses were sponsored by the Wisconsin newsletter in order to free all entry money for pitchers' awards.

This was the first of a series of annual Border-Battles between the two states if directors have their way and players cooperate.

Building the Wisconsin/Minnesota Border-Battle

It all started in Ainsworth, NE. Dale Lipovsky idly made the remark that we ought to have a state-on-state tournament. Surrounding pitchers at the dinner table picked up on it. Exciting for the moment; few thought it would go.

We made the challenge in the *Wisconsin Horseshoe Newsletter* (we do have Minnesota subscribers) and online. Minnesota President Dick Dvorak responded. AOL was our vehicle. We worked out the time, place, format—all online. Dvorak handled the Minnesota players. Randy Rein handily recruited Wisconsin players.

WI-MN central:
<jimhaupt@aol.com><DIKADV@aol.com>.

MINNESOTA The 40s

Mark Bauman	7	69.38
Dale Lipovsky	7	77.81
Ger. Stangland	2	53.75
Danny Carlson	4	60.31
Willie Korpela	0	40.63
Jerry LaBrosse	2	49.06
Ray Volkers	1	48.13
Dick Dvorak	1	44.38

The 30s

Bev Nathe	7	70.31
Len Lipovsky	7	69.69
Phyllis Negaard	7	67.81
Edi Holland	5	58.44
Lu Cave	4	48.75
Mary Denzin	3	44.69
Ginger O'Brien	1	43.44
Harold Schrader	0	44.06

WISCONSIN The 40s

Randy Rein	8	75.31
Don Kangas	5	64.06
John Udelhofen	6	68.75
Kent Anderson	6	63.75
John Crook	2	43.13
Gus Schram	5	41.88
John Koepp	5	49.69
Ron Brockway	3	48.75

The 30s

Clayton Gage	6	66.56
Gert Wilczek	7	67.81
Ralph Maylahn	3	52.50
Lorraine Sternberg	3	54.38
Edie McKinney	3	57.81
Elaine Troullier	2	51.88
Jane Smith	1	34.38
Sue Helene	5	60.63

1999 Official Rules of Horseshoe Pitching

CHANGES/PROPOSALS

MARCH 20, 1999

The following are the rule change/additions proposals for 1999. Please read them over carefully and instruct your delegates to the World Tournament Convention how you wish to vote on each. You, the general membership, are the people who need to vote on these.

It's been mentioned in previous years of the importance of letting your

membership vote on these issues. Please copy and distribute these proposals freely among your members. Ask them for feedback, record their votes by whatever method you choose, then have your delegates vote as the membership wishes them to vote.

We are aware that all Charter Officers and Regional Directors receive *Newsline*, therefore this request pertains to all of them, in addition to all others who subscribe. It is up to all of

us to attempt to communicate the information contained in these pages.

An idea that just might work, to increase the number of readers, is to give a subscription away at various tournaments throughout your Charter, you could perhaps raffle it off. This would not only enlighten people, but also let them see just what a fine magazine this really is. It could be a fundraiser for your club.

Casey Sluys

1. Rule 1, 3 Stakes

Change sentence (normally the front of the stakes are 40 ft. apart) to read:

On regulation courts the stakes are 40 ft. apart. This is measured from the front of each stake level with the pitching platform.

Purpose: nowhere does it state where the measurement is from.

2. 1, A, 9, C, Temporary &/or Raised Courts

The 40 ft. distance for elevated platforms shall be measured from the front of the bottom of the stake, at floor level before substance is put into the pit.

Purpose: nowhere does it state where the measurement is taken from.

3. Rule 1, A, 8 Foul Lines

Foul lines shall be clearly marked by lines level with and extending across from the front of the full distance and extended platforms. This places them at 37 and 27 feet respectively from the opposite stake.

Purpose: Clarification of wording and removing reference to contact with the foul line which is covered in Rule 6, H, 1, a.

4. Rule 6, C, 1 Delivery of Shoes

Move sentence #4 to Rule 6, D, #4, Position of contestants during delivery. *If both contestants use the same platform to deliver their shoes, the contestant pitching first (after delivering both shoes) should cross over to the other side in front of the pit and then move to the rear of that platform. As the first contestant is crossing over in front, the second contestant should be crossing over in back and mounting the platform from the rear.*

Purpose: Relates more to the position of the contestants than it does to delivery of shoes.

5. Rule 6, D, 1 The Pitcher

The pitcher must maintain constant contact with the designated platform during the entire address and release of the shoe. Exceptions: (a) A contestant observing the 37 foot foul line may start directly behind the platform provided they step within it when they release their shoe. (b) A physically challenged contestant must have at least some contact with the platform and be completely behind the 27 foot foul line when the shoe is released.

Purpose: Clarification of wording, excepting walking aids, wheelchairs and removing references to "contact either on or over the foul line." It is covered in Rule 6, H, 1, a

6. Rule 6, D, 2 The Opponent

The opponent, while not pitching, shall stand on or behind the 40 ft. platform at least 2 ft. to the rear of the contestant who is pitching. The opponent shall be quiet and stationery so as not to disturb the contestant who is pitching or the contestants on adjacent courts. After a short distance contestant pitches first they must return to the 40 ft. platform if the opponent or any contestant on an adjacent court is a full distance pitcher.

Purpose: Clarification and continuity by changing the working and moving middle provisions to last.

7. Rule 6, D, 3 The Contestants

Move present #3 to #4 (#3 now part of Rule 6, C) and add new #3

3. The Contestants, If both contestants use the same platform to deliver their shoes, the contestant pitching first should cross over to the other platform in front of the pit and then move into proper position (see #2). As the first contestant is crossing in front, the second contestant should be crossing over in back and mounting the pitching platform from the rear. If contestants use opposite platforms, the contestant who pitches first should step directly back to the proper position described in #2 of this section.

Purpose: to move and reword a portion of Rule 6, C, 1 to a more proper location and add a provision for contestants using opposite platforms.

Present #3 will become #4, with no change in wording.

8. Rule 6, H, 1, a & b Foul Shoes

Change to read: *a, Any pitched shoe when the contestant has made contact with the foul line before releasing the shoe. (Rule 1, #8). b, Except as provided in Rule 6, D, 1, any shoe pitched when the contestant has started or stepped completely outside the pitchers platform before releasing the shoe.*

Purpose: *a*, The wording "stepped over the foul line" would be a position off the platform and is covered under *b*. *b*, Cancel the exception which is covered by referenced rule. *A & b* needs wording, "before releasing the shoe", added and the correct Rule referenced.

1999 Official Rules of Horseshoe Pitching

CHANGES/PROPOSALS

9. Rule 6, E, 4

Add the following exception:

EXCEPTION: If one or more shoes (are obvious ringers and have been agreed to by the contestants) are moved to make a measurement they need not be repitched. Only the shoes(s) in question when the shoe or stake was moved must be scored or ordered repitched by the judge. If one or more shoes are below the shoe(s) in question, they will be scored and remain in place for the repitch. No scored shoe will have the scoring changed due to a repitch.

Purpose: Obvious ringers should not be penalized.

10. RULE 6, C, 2

A contestant shall deliver both shoes within 30 seconds. The time shall start when the contestant steps onto the platform with the

intention of pitching (as opposed to retrieving shoes or removing foreign material from the platform).

11. Rule 11 add section C

The use of alcoholic beverages, illegal controlled substance, and any form of tobacco while in the confines of the courts shall be prohibited for all contestants, scorekeepers, judges and officials for all NHPA sanctioned tournaments and sanctioned league play.

Reason: If it is appropriate for World Tournament play, then it should also be mandated for all sanctioned events. 2. Promotes a healthier environment for participants of the sport. NHPA promotes horseshoes as a healthy sport. 3. Portrays horseshoes as a more professional sport to all watching the events, including non-members.

How Well Do You Know The Rules?

by Casey Sluys, NHPA Rules Committee Chairman

There seems to be a misunderstanding of some of the rules. In a few tournaments early into the 1999 season, I've noticed that pitchers step on the clay within the scoring radius of the stake. This is generally done to tamp the clay down or fill in holes left by shoes. If one examines Rule 4, Section A, the last two sentences, they state: "During a game a contestant shall not step on, mash or otherwise repair any substance in the scoring area of the pit without the consent of the opponent or a tournament official. Repair needed because of a measured shoe or a shoe that was "buried" shall be handled using the same guidelines."

It's fairly straightforward, wouldn't you say? You need permission from your opponent, judge, tournament director, or tournament committee to tamp the surface down. The easiest method to handle this segment of the rules is either keep your feet out of the pit or, ask your opponent if it would be okay to tamp the surface

down. There should be no need to bother a judge with this request, unless the area is so badly pock-marked from shoes that you feel it necessary to flatten the surface and your opponents say no. In that case a judge should rule whether the surface is acceptable.

There is, in fact, a penalty for this offense if your opponent wanted to press the rules when you step in the clay without permission. Rule 6, H, 1, d states: (under the heading of "foul shoes") "One shoe when a contestant has illegally stepped on the scoring area of the playing surface. When this violation occurs, the contestant shall pitch only one shoe in the next inning. The second shoe shall be carried to the other end." It's real simple, people; we need to keep our feet out of the clay.

Another rule frequently overlooked is Rule 6, Section D, #2, "The Opponent." It states: "The opponent, while not pitching, shall stand on (or behind) the other platform at least 2

feet to the rear of the contestant who is pitching. If the competition is mixed (in terms of pitching distances), the opponent shall move to the rear of the full distance platform."

If the players on one adjacent court are two short distance pitchers, the tendency is for one to move far enough back to where they do not interfere with their opponent. The problem is that on the other adjacent court there is a full distance pitcher and a short distance pitcher. The full distance pitcher already sees the short distance pitcher on the adjacent court, but having the opponent stand there too becomes all the more distracting.

Please, when you pitch in a mixed tournament (mixed is defined as mixed distance) remember to move back to the rear of the full distance platform. It does not matter whether you are pitching a full distance player or a short distance player. The rule states you must move back to the rear of the full distance platform.

Questions & Answers

It is an unfortunate reality that a great majority of our NHPA membership still does not know of the National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. Still yet, many that have heard of it don't understand why the NHPF exists or what it can do. In order to help explain some things, I have prepared a list of the most frequently heard questions with answers. Perhaps the distribution and/or posting of this list will enlighten some people and bring further donations.

Q *How is the NHPF different from the NHPA?*

A The NHPF is a charitable organization incorporated in the State of Tennessee. The NHPA is a non-profit organization incorporated in Ohio. Of the two, only donations to the NHPF are tax deductible.

Q *Why was the NHPF Formed?*

A There are several reasons. Primary was Dr. Jack Freeman of Nashville wanting to make a charitable donation of a large parcel of land that one day might be the site of the NHPA Hall of Fame. Since the NHPA was seeking a location but was not a charitable organization, the NHPF was formed to accept the gift.

Q *How are the 38 pitching courts known as the Jack Freeman Courts involved?*

A These courts sit on an adjoining improved parcel of about 7 acres. Once Dr. Freeman has been able to claim the full \$400,000 value of the first land contribution, he wants to donate the improved \$600,000 parcel to the NHPF. Tax laws prevent him from writing off both parcels at the same time.

Q *Who operates the 38 courts now?*

A Dr. Freeman currently owns the small parcel with the 38 courts but leases it to the NHPF for one dollar a year. As a Director and officer of the NHPF, Dr. Freeman remains the facility director for the courts and sets with NHPF approval, all the guidelines for use and maintenance of the courts.

Q *Who pays the bills?*

A For the 57 acre unimproved parcel, the NHPF pays property taxes and land maintenance. For the smaller improved parcel, the NHPF has paid nearly \$10,000 for court lighting and is slowly picking up the other operational expenses which include, taxes, insurance, utilities, upkeep, improvements, etc. Fortunately, Dr. Freeman has been very generous by paying most of the expenses himself as he first wants to see the NHPF endowment fund grow.

Q *What is the plan for money donated?*

A The NHPF currently has a business account paying 4-5% interest on the cash in the account. The plan is to grow this money in a perpetual endowment fund to the point that a Hall of Fame can be built and all annual expenses of it and the grounds can be paid from the interest earned on the endowment fund.

Q *When the Hall of Fame is built, what will it cost and who will own it?*

A It is currently estimated that the Hall of Fame building will cost between three and four hundred thousand dollars. It will be more than just museum floorspace as the building will have to include public facilities as well as office and storage space. We also have to consider caretaker quarters either as part of the building or a separate unit. The building will be owned and operated by the NHPF as a horseshoe pitching museum with the primary displays being the NHPA Hall of Fame exhibits.

Q *Will the NHPF charge the NHPA for exhibit space?*

A No. As long as donations maintain the endowment fund and interest basically pays the bills, we see no charges to the NHPA. However, there will a modest charge or donation required to enter the museum.

Q *When will the Hall of Fame be built?*

A We estimate 2-5 years from now. We will not start construction until after Dr. Freeman has actually been able to donate the improved parcel to the NHPF as the thought is to make it part of the existing improvements. We also have to have more money in the endowment fund then now exists.

Q *How much money is in the NHPF account?*

A \$201,664 as of April 1, 1999.

Q *I've heard that the NHPF plans to do other things. What are they and why?*

A The NHPF is set up as a "Public Foundation" as opposed to Private. That means we are able to solicit support from wherever it's available but in turn must use funds to assist in the promotion and education of the sport to the general public. As such, the NHPF must develop programs, services, scholarships, grants and the like that assist and educate the public as to the sport of horseshoe pitching. While opening a Hall of Fame museum is one avenue to this end, it cannot be the only thing.

Q *Who runs the NHPF?*

A The NHPF is a Board of five Directors. Four are elected to a term of 4 years by the NHPA Executive Council. The fifth Director is the NHPA President who serves ex officio.

Q *How much compensation do the Board of Directors receive?*

A None. Each Director serves without pay.

About the NHPF

by Dave Loucks

Q Will all the World Tournaments be held at the Tennessee site?

A There are certainly no plans to do this. It is felt that every 3-5 years, the World will be scheduled in Joelton to help promote and offset the costs of the site.

Q What kind of facilities can RV'ers expect at the court site?

A Currently, just a lot of open land. We realize that some RV improvements will have to be made. Parking pads, water and electric hook-ups, a dump station would all be nice but these will be the most costly improvements to the site. Not only do we not have the funds for this, the IRS would most likely consider any revenue generated by RV parking to be non-related income and thus subject to tax. This improvement option needs a lot more investigation and study.

Q I'll never attend a World Tournament or visit the Hall of Fame. Why should I contribute?

A If you sincerely enjoy pitching horseshoes in organized competition you should be happy to give something to the sport that does a lot for you. You should want to help the sport improve and gain recognition. What better way than to make a financial contribution that will help this to come about. Your donation can also help fund court improvements at clubs around the country (maybe yours), develop and fund instruction programs to educate the youth and general public about the sport and to foster national amateur horseshoe competitions for the purpose of developing and improving the skills of players.

Q OK, I'm convinced. What and how can I contribute?

A The immediate need of the Foundation is cash to grow the endowment and building fund. We'd like to encourage members to make annual donations. An average of just \$15.00 per year per member would

allow the NHPF to reach and maintain its goals. Remember, it's tax deductible. Members can also include the Foundation in their estate planning. A gift of cash, stocks or property after death will help not only the NHPF but will reduce the estate tax burden on your heirs.

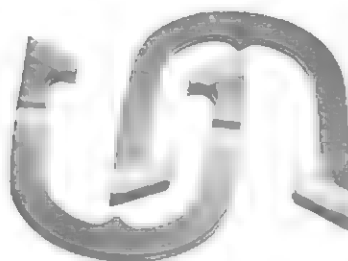
Q Where do I send my contribution?

A Contributions should be payable to the: NHPF or National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation. Mail them to: 140 Sierra Blanca Ct., Grass Valley, CA 95945.

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THE CALK ON THE BOTTOM OF THE MR. D SHOE
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SHOE PITCHED, TO HELP PREVENT THE SECOND
SHOE FROM REBOUNDED BACK OFF THE STAKE

THE BALANCE AND THE INTER-LOCKING FEATURE
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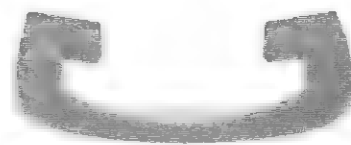
The edges of the Mr. D. Shoe are not round like they are on other shoes. The extra, extra heavy heels tend to keep the heels down as the shoe rings the stake, giving the square edges, and the calks on the bottom of the heels a better chance to grab the pit surface, or the other shoes on the stake, to prevent the shoe from turning around. This will lessen the chance of it being knocked off the stake.

An ideal flip has the shoe coming to the stake as it has just leveled out. Sometimes our aim is off just enough that the point, or heel, of the shoe will hit the stake as the shoe comes in. The points of the heel of the Mr. D. Shoe are at a slant, so that the first part of the shoe to hit the stake is on a plane with the bottom of the shoe. This forces the point of the shoe down, therefore; the extra, extra heavy heels on the Mr. D. Shoe will force the calks on the bottom of the shoe into the pit. The "dead soft" rating then entices the shoe to drop next to the stake for a point.

Because the heel of the Mr. D Shoe is so heavy, sometimes the heel that doesn't hit the stake will jerk around the rear of the stake. This causes the other heel, that is now holding onto the pit surface, to hook the stake for a ringer as the shoe turns around the stake.

Shoes with hardened points, that hit the stake in this manner when flipped, have a tendency to jump away from the stake and spin to the rear, out of scoring range.

Shoes with blunt points, or shoes flipped with the slope of the heels going up, makes the top plane of the shoe to be the first part of the heel to hit the stake. This, more apt that not, will cause the shoe to flip over backwards and come to rest several inches from the stake - a lot of times out of scoring range.



THE HORSESHOE TRADER

More of the Rare Ones

by Bob Dunn

There are many gaps in the information about old pitching shoes. Simply, there is no book or single source to look to, to find information about the old treasures. This is one aspect of our sport that has not been recorded or documented very well. There has been about five years of intense research to reconstruct some sort of reference for identifying these important artifacts of our sport. The research has proved difficult to find information, but by combining a bit of data found in old hardware catalogs and bits of data found elsewhere, gradually a file is being developed.

There are the rare ones (shoes) that we are aware of but cannot find a specimen. There are manufacturers that we have some awareness of but have little or no information of what type of shoe or models they produced. Then there are cases where shoes are commonly found and are in collection but we have no idea who made them or when or where. Here are some more of the rare ones. Keep in mind that these shoes are presented in hopes that some of our members can add information so we can someday develop a full catalog knowledge of all pitching shoes.

The Erie Malleable Company of Erie, PA advertised their Ermal shoe through the *Horseshoe World* in 1935, which were listed as a sanctioned shoe in 1936. This company was listed as a pitching shoe manufacturer in the Franklin Directory of American Manufacturers from 1936 through 1941. Although being a sanctioned shoe by the NHPA and existing during a time when the sport was extremely popular across the whole country, just one Ermal hookless shoe and one hooked model are in a private collection. At least by this find we have the information that Erie Malleable did produce two different models of shoes.

Probably the most unusual of the rare shoes is that designed by William F. Madison of Rochester, New York. Madison received a patent for his design on November 3, 1936. The reprint of his patent draft clearly shows how unusual or advanced his design was for the time. Madison advertised in the 1935 *Horseshoe World* and was listed in 1936 as a sanctioned shoe. It is only by the finding of his patent that we know of the strange design of his shoe for the ads were all pictureless. Pitchers of the time must not have bought into the new design, even though a 1936 ad boasted of 17 consecutive doubles pitched. There are no Madison shoes listed in collection.

Another shoe that has evaded all collectors is the Durable shoe produced by the Lancaster Malleable & Steel Corp. The first ads appeared in *Horseshoe World* in 1936, and with out pictures, so there is no present way to know what the

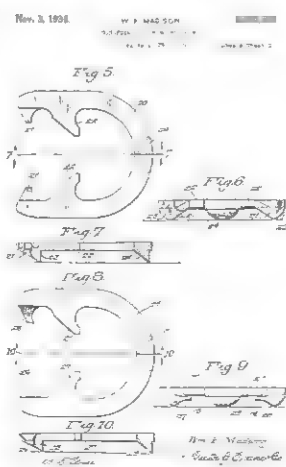
shoe looked like or what type of model was produced. The ads addressed the new tougher shoe made of a special alloy, even though the make-up of the alloy was not described. This shoe was also an NHPA sanctioned shoe. The ads seemed to stop in the *Horseshoe World* after 1937 with no further mention of their product, yet the company is listed again in 1949 in the *Sporting Goods Directory* as a horseshoe producer. If that period of time was a continual period of production, it sure doesn't explain why there are no Durable shoes reported in collection.

Another rare shoe is the Anchor-On by Anchor Horseshoe Company of Fresno, CA. The shoe was listed as a sanctioned shoe in 1936, then from Los Angeles. The only ad so far retrieved is a pictured ad from the 1940 *Compendium* a book produced by NHPA Secretary Lee Rose. The ad presents an interesting aspect, the shoe was endorsed by Ira Allen. A little-known name to today's pitchers, Ira was the brother of the famous pitcher Ted Allen. Ira, a champion pitcher in his own right, won his first State Championship in Colorado in 1923 at age 13. Still, no Anchor-On shoes are reported in collection.

The Hawley shoe would be a prize find for any collector, and so far none are known to be in collection. An ad for this shoe first appeared in 1939 through the *Horseshoe World*. The shoe was named after the designer, G.H. Hawley, and produced by The Extruded Metal Products Company of Bridgeport, Ohio. The main selling point was that it was made of solid bronze. Over the years of our sport, there have been a number of bronze and brass shoes, but by the records recreated to this point, this is the earliest known bronze shoe. The ad boasts of the shoe's designer pitching 97 ringers out of 100 shoes and had pitched 72 consecutive ringers. Hawley may not be a common name to us today, but a bit more research finds that Grover Hawley was a five-time Ohio State Champion in the 1940s. His shoe had a plain brandless top side but the shoe is unmistakable with the bold engraved Hawley brand on the underside. The novelty of the bronze creation must not have created a big market—there are no Hawley shoes reported in collection.

There are manufacturers known to be producers of horseshoes with no knowledge of what kind of shoes or models made. The main assumption is that they produced brandless shoes and we may never know any more about some of the companies. By writing about some of these companies, a bit more information may turn up. Pictured ads would be the most informative. Most collectors have a number of brandless shoes. Each year it seems more are positively identified as research continues. Slowly, over time, we will continue to match the brandless shoes with the mystery makers.

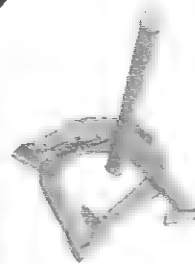
The first mystery company is the Craftsman Tool Company of Champaign, IL. This company is listed in *Franklin's Directory* from 1924 through 1926. Now there is a Cushman Company listed in 1923, also in Champaign, but that is probably a misprint or the company was bought by or merged with the Craftsman Company. There are no



instances where companies are known to produce shoes for just one year. There are no Craftsman shoes found by this company's brand name, although there are many shoes bearing the name Craftsman. They were actually made by the **Marion Tool Corporation** of Marion, Indiana. The Indiana company is first listed in 1936. The 10-year gap makes it rather unlikely there is any correlation between the two companies. Marion Tool produced three models through the 1930s and 1940s: a plain hookless model, their first hooked model had very small blunt hooks, and the supreme design, the **Craftsman Ace** is rare in its own right, for only one set is known in collection. The Craftsman shoes have no relationship with the Sears & Roebuck Company, although the catalog did sell pitching shoes for decades.

Another company is the St. Louis Horseshoe Company of St. Louis, MO. Their first ad appeared (pictureless) in the 1935 *Horseshoe World*. There is a shoe branded STL, assumed to represent St. Louis, of which there are three shoes known in collection and probably is a match for this company. The STL shoe has extremely heavy calks and is a clumsy looking shoe that resembles other 1930 shoes. They're rather ugly, so ugly they're beautiful.

The final shoe of review this issue is just maybe the most attractive of all the hookless shoes—the **Cleveland**. Produced by the **Cleveland Hardware Company**, of Cleveland, Ohio, this plain hookless model just seemed to have such balance and flair and the neatness of brand logo. The first pictured ad appeared in the 1927 *Horseshoe World*. The ads ceased in 1929, a fairly short-lived span in production. Whether shoes can be graded on artistic value or not, there are only three Cleverlands known in collection—the Cleveland shoe is one of the rare ones.



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only 10 Time World Champion
and record holder of 36
Consecutive Doubles (72 ringers)**

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Visitors to the NHPA website are a wonderful mix of NHPA members and interested web "surfers" who follow leads found on the internet for "horseshoe pitching." Our internet exposure to both groups is well reflected in the many nice comments we receive. More and more members are finding their way onto the internet and into the increasing number of Charter websites available.

We've begun posting colorful banners on each major coming event that normally attracts its majority of pitchers from "out-of-state." And, we now post smaller, randomly selected banners (one at a time) each week to encourage viewers to visit our many Charter websites. Steve Morris (PA) has joined our website staff of volunteers and is creating both types of banners. When our file of Charter banners has grown sufficiently, we may change them randomly on a daily basis. We still have our NHPA WebRing for touring any and all Charter websites.

Our website "background music" has received numerous comments of appreciation, but we realize not all viewers desire background music, for whatever reason. Accordingly, we changed the music setup to automatically start playing shortly after the website loads in your browser, but viewers may stop any song, advance to the next selection or turn off the music altogether (as well as control the volume on most browsers). "Music" on the internet is usually a digital, synthesized instrumental called a "midi" file. There are other "music" file types, but midi files have proven to be the most efficient for internet usage. Our setup will handle 100 midi files, playing

about 2 to 4 minutes each. Your computer must have "multi-media" equipment to hear sounds. Another "sound" on the website is the voice of Paul Stewart (NC), NHPA 5th VP, heard when you click his picture.

The NHPA website's posted NatStats files for each charter now have an optional posting that shows each of the Men, Women, Elders, Boys and Girls categories sorted separately in alphabetical order. And, still another option provides viewers with a downloadable file for sorting a charter NatStats file into categories sorted numerically by ringer average. The latter file, when printed out, makes an excellent check list for local tournament directors when seeding lineups. Our thanks to Glenn Jamieson (CA), NatStats Director, for providing data every two weeks.

ICQ (I seek you) recently came out with a newer version, 99a Beta, that gives added features. Like the original ICQ version, it is free for download and use. This chat program shows others when you are online (unless you choose to be invisible) so they can chat or send messages that you read almost instantly. A very popular and well-used program among your website staff and friends. It is even faster than e-mail! Any two people may "chat" or "drag in" several others who are online at the moment for a round-table discussion. "Chatting" is done by typing messages which others can read "as you type" (errors and all!). Voice chatting is done by only a few at the present time, but it promises to be very popular. Voice and "video" chatting is done by even less but has proven to be very interesting. The NHPA website "webcam" showing fre-

quently updated camera shots during the 1998 World Tournament at Ainsworth, NE is an example of the "video" part of voice and video chatting.

The website's photo files have recently been rearranged into several self running "slide shows." Each takes a few minutes to "load slides" and then displays each photo for a few seconds. Viewers may click any slide to view it in larger size for as long as desired. Really slick! There are slide shows on 1998 WT Champions, miscellaneous WT photos, and Joelton, TN Freeman Courts. There are 57 miscellaneous photo "thumbnail" images displayed 10 at a time (very fast loading images) which may also be clicked with your computer "mouse" to view in larger image size.

We sneak surprises in occasionally, so when visiting the website, explore with your "mouse" every image and link to see if something comes up on your screen. We also change the website background color and design occasionally, on national holidays or other special occasions. And, by all means, visit the guestbook to read what other viewers have to say and leave your own comments.

The future possibilities for the NHPA website are countless. On unexplored idea is to photograph items, articles and even individuals for a collection of memorabilia on horseshoe pitching to display as an "Online Museum." What makes this particular idea so interesting is that it would work very well with any and all other local charter files on the same subject...all linked together into a collectively larger "museum." We plan to hit "Y2K" on the dead run...come and be a part of it.

On our cover is Hursha Ramaiya, being presented the 1998 National Scholarship award at Cooperstown, North Dakota High School at the athletic awards ceremony. She is the daughter of Dr. J.K. and Mrs. Ramaiya of Cooperstown.

She is a member of the Sheyenne Valley Junior League in Cooperstown, ND, coached by Paul Hagen.

Hursha had a 4.0 GPA in 1998. Active in many school activities, her achievements are listed here.

Awards/Achievements:

- 1st place—State FBLA competition
- 10th place—National FBLA competition
- 1st place—Valley City Business Challenge
- 11th place—Mathcounts
- 1st Place—FHA STAR Events
- FHA Outstanding Member
- 1st place—GCCHS Girls Tennis Tournament
- 2nd place—State Science Olympiad; Water Quality, Simple Machines
- Gold Award—State Science Fair
- Outstanding Project—Local Science Fair
- Star—State Music Contest, instr. solo, duet
- 3rd place—State LifeSmarts competition

Activities:

Leadership

- FHA VP of Individual Programs
 - LifeSmarts Team Captain
- ##### Community Service
- Help organize summer tennis tourn.
 - Help at community swimming pool
 - Help fundraise for St. Jukes Children's Hospital, Easter Seals, etc.

Extra-Curricular

- FHA (Future Homemakers of America)
- FBLA (Future Business Leaders of America)
- Tennis Team • Band • Choir
- AHSME (American High School Math Exam.
- N.D. Governor's School
- 2 years Jr. -Sheyenne Valley Horseshoe League

Match-Up Trophy Back at Jack Freeman Courts

by Mary Bastian

The fourth annual New Melle Music City Match-Up Tournament got underway Saturday morning after Joe Faron announced there was really no need to take the trophy off the bus. Fifty-three pitchers and others from New Melle began arriving by mid-afternoon on Friday, March 12. That night the group feasted on catfish at The Rawlings in nearby Joelton and later practiced horseshoes at the Courts. Joe Faron and Karen Henry handled the arrangements from Missouri while Jack Freeman and Mary Bastian worked out the details in Tennessee.

The format of the tournament was the same as last year. Two flights of six 6-person classes pitched on Saturday, March 13, and one flight of six 6-person classes pitched on Sunday morning. Match-ups were made by a committee and total wins were posted after each flight. Games were 50 shoes cancellation and ties remained ties.

Eighteen pitchers (nine each from New Melle and Music City) were the designated match-ups in the first flight. At the end of the first flight the score was New Melle 26.5-Music City 23.5. After Tournament Director and Music City Coach Jack Freeman announced the results, he threatened the Music City pitchers with laps and pushups. At the end of the second flight, thirteen pitchers from New Melle added 30.5 points to their first flight score; Music City added 28.5 points to theirs. The score was now New Melle 57-Music City 52. Joe Faron announced "We've got them on the run." Music City did not think five points insurmountable. Watering and covering the courts for the night, the New Melle group left to take in some night spots.

On Sunday morning, Jack Freeman casually mentioned laps and pushups



again. All the pitchers took to the courts and there was an air of grim determination from both groups. After the final shoes were thrown, the committee retired behind closed doors to tally the final result. Meanwhile the pitchers decided to eat a catered lunch of barbecue, white beans, slaw, Mexican cornbread and banana pudding and wait for the results.

Jack Freeman held the microphone; Joe Faron held the trophy. Briefly summarizing the first two flights and explaining some of the wheeling and dealing, Jack Freeman announced that eight pitchers from New Melle and eight pitchers from Music City had given their all. Music City picked up 27 points and New Melle 13.5. Joe Faron pulled out his handkerchief and wiped his eyes. He then handed the trophy to Jack, took the microphone and told his pitchers there would be no Saturday night fun next year. Final tally: Music City 79 New Melle 72.5.

After picture taking and solemn goodbyes, the Missourians boarded the big Mid American Bus in the rain for

the long trip home.

New Melle had 53 pitchers present. Music City had 26 pitchers from Tennessee, Indiana, Alabama, Kentucky, Colorado and Virginia. Total payback was \$990 with first place paying \$35.00 and second place \$20.00 in all classes. Maxine Griffith of Tennessee had the high tournament percentage of 77.20% and a high game of 82%. Rose Diekamp of Missouri also had a high game of 82%. Joan Elmore of Tennessee and Stan Griggs of Missouri had high games of 84%.

Jack Freeman, Facility Director at the Courts, summed up the tournament this way. "This was another excellent tournament. Participation by non-New Melle pitchers was probably the best ever. All courts were filled, all three flights. Not everyone got to play on Sunday (that played on Saturday), but everyone played that had signed up and showed up.

"We were behind five games on Sunday morning when competition began, and I was worried. I threatened pushups and laps again, but nobody seemed to be listening. My only hope was the New Melle pitchers would enjoy the night life Nashville has to offer. They did! Somebody told me Joe Faron was even leading singing at the Nashville Palace! In the first round we gained two games. In the second round, we gained two or three more. By the end of the morning, we had caught up the five games we were behind and added to that, another 6.5 games. Music City won 79 to 72.5!

"This is the first Match-Up tournament with New Melle that Music City has won since the first in 1996.

"We plan to take on New Melle at New Melle around November 13-14, 1999. If any non-Missouri pitchers are interested in pitching for Music City, please contact us."

Officer Candidate Recap

Running for NHPA First Vice President

ALLEN BAPTIST

14 year member from Colorado. Currently serves as Secretary/Treasurer of the Eagle Valley Horseshoe Club and is the NHPA Regional Director for Colorado. A member of the CHPA Hall of Fame committee. Has attended last ten World Tournaments.

BILLIE SUE PENNINGTON

First woman president of Northern California Charter who, in 1995, was inducted into the NCHPA Hall of Fame. Was instrumental in putting World Tournament results in computerized form. Member of NHPA website development and update team. Recently retired to the state of Florida. Currently developing a computerized

media reporting system as the newly appointed NHPA Publicity Director. Member for 18 years.

Running for NHPA Third Vice President

DONNIE ROBERTS

Past NHPA Secretary/Treasurer who was, in 1986, inducted into the NHPA Hall of Fame. Former top pitcher who won World Junior title in 1959. Received Stokes Award in 1978.

LORRAINE STERNBERG

NHPA member since 1986. Involved with sanctioned league program for over 20 years, past 5 serving as Director of the Goldendale, WI Horseshoe Club. Was for 8 years the Jr. Scholarship Director for the WHPA. A top woman

pitcher from a family of five where all are NHPA members actively involved in promoting the sport. Has attended last 12 World Tournaments. Currently serves NHPA as Junior Promotion Director.

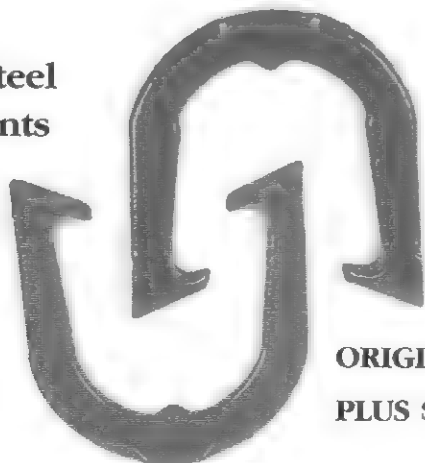
STEVE SUMMERLIN

Eleven year member of the NHPA who has served in several officer positions with both the Berkley and Brighton, Michigan clubs. Became Wolverine State HPA statistician in 1994, NHPA Regional Director in 1995 and State Charter Secretary in 1998. Very active in promoting the sport and sanctioned league. Member of NHPA website development team who has created websites for nine other charters. Attended all recent World Tournaments working each day in the office, shoe checking and as a judge.

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After only 2 years, Becky Kemper of Pleasureville, KY won the 1998 World Women's Championship pitching Imperial Horseshoes.

Running for NHPA Fifth Vice President

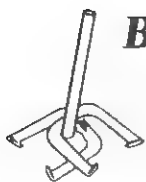
PAUL STEWART

NHPA member since 1983. Currently holds office as 5th VP running for re-election. Has been an officer of the North Carolina charter since 1990, holding such positions as Secretary/Treasurer, Statistician and newsletter editor. Served four years as NHPA Regional Director, current chairman. Director of NHPA website development team.

Running for NHPA President

DAVE LOUCKS

NHPA member since 1951. President since 1985. Member of both Northern California and NHPA Hall of Fame. Founder and Director of National Horseshoe Pitchers Foundation (NHPPF). Editor and publisher of *Newsline* magazine for last 10 years.



Bob Champion's

CHARTER CHATTER

Before *Chatter* heads off into the sunset, as NHPA Publicity Chairman, may I direct a few words to the states who do not have newsletters. As over 35 charterers know, news for *Charter Chatter* is taken from the newsletters sent to me.

May I request that those states that do not have publications, at least discuss the possibility at their next meeting? All it takes is a person in command of the King's English, someone who has access to a copy machine, some help in folding the newsletter and a little postage money that can be obtained from the state treasury, donations and/or the sale of advertising.

Colorado's *Double Ringer* started with a two-page mimeographed publication, financed through advertising and sent free three times to all state members. After this initial push, we asked for \$3.00 for six issues, which has increased in 18 years to only \$7. At the present time 40% of our 476 members subscribe to the newsletter.

If you wish further information, write me and I'll answer any questions. Bob Champion, 5505 Valmont #176, Boulder, CO 80301. (303) 449-8395.

ARIZONA

The 41st Annual Valley of the Sun Tournament in Mesa was dedicated to a couple of hard-working horseshoe enthusiasts, who 30 years ago dropped down to Mesa from Washington State.

Jean and Orville Thomas, a pair of 81-year-old "youngsters" have made their mark for two decades. The Thomas' were around when they dedicated the courts in Pioneer Park, home of the Valley of the Sun Tournament, in 1978. Even though Jean knows about everyone in the tournament, she checks the cards of every entry, and is the chief clerk for the event.

Elected to the Arizona Hall of Fame in 1989, they both have spent many hours doing their thing at the courts—judging scoring, and doing important maintenance on the courts. They were the first couple inducted.

Orville pitched in one World Tournament in 1981 at Genola and sported a 40% ringer percentage. He moved to 30 feet, but had to quit official play after 30 years of competition. He last pitched in the state tournament in Yuma in 1998.

During their playing days, they frequented tournaments in the state and were most active in the Phoenix and Mesa areas. Before his work retirement at age 50, Orville delivered propane gas in Washington State. Jean was a rural mail carrier until December 1966.

CALIFORNIA

Before leaving California for Florida, Walter Ray Williams, Jr. had recorded a record number of perfect games pitched in sanctioned tournaments. His record of 12 lists, four as a Junior pitcher and eight as an adult. He holds the record of

56 straight ringers in a perfect game pitched in 1977 at Hermiston, Oregon against Bob West. In 1981 he nailed 50 straight in a perfect effort against Bob Mauzey at Pleasanton, California.

On the other side of the ledger, Walter Ray has been the victim of two perfect games, one by John Kapnis from Massachusetts in Columbus, Ohio in 1988 and the second a 20-shoe win by Jim Knisley, Ohio at Columbus in 1989.

Walter Ray had no family mercy, having won perfects against brothers Jeffery and Jonathan. Only Nathan has escaped the perfect pitching wrath of the six-time World Champion.

Earl Smith, from the Sonoma County Club, attended the Senior Games in Napa and won some gold medals, including horseshoes.

He had the opportunity to talk to a group, and had a small part in promoting horseshoes. As the result of the event, the press contacted him regarding publicity resulting in an article in the newspaper.

The Club will begin a sanctioned league program this year. This is a "grass roots" effort to obtain more members for NHPA. Maybe more clubs will make this effort to organize leagues and interest others in horseshoe pitching.

CANADA

Canada entered the perfect game list with a perfect 30-shoe game by Elmer Hohl (1968) against Wes Kuchcinski in the World Tournament at Keene, New Hampshire.

Other Canadians constructing perfect games are Andre LeClerc and Angeline Moisan from Quebec and Sandy McLachlin, Ontario. Andre fashioned a 22er at the Elmer Hohl Tournament in 1984 and Angeline made perfect history at the Canadian Championships in 1987.

Since 1987, Sandy McLachlin has perfected four games, including two in the same day on August 22, 1987 at Columbus, Ohio. Believe it or not, she came back a day later on Sunday to add another 20-shoe game against Debby Michaud. That made three, and the fourth one was a 20-shoe game August 20, 1988 with Kevin Hollister the victim.

In the British Columbia Championships Jim Ball, Central Park, won the Men's title (12-2, 59.5); Bernice Busch, Nanaimo, captured the women's crown (15-1, 70.4); Erin Greenside, Victoria won the Junior Girls title (11-1, 45.3); Randy Schaeffer, Quesnel won the Junior Boys crown (7-6, 36.9); and Earl Morris, Ladysmith, was the Elders winner (10-3, 51.9).

COLORADO

Fifteen-time singles state champion Paul LaCrosse from Englewood teamed with Ken McKenzie from Wellington to win the 1999 State Doubles Championship at the Pitchin' Post. La Crosse had won the second doubles event with Gene Sandoval as his partner in 1993. His overall 73.8 ringer percentage was high for the group last year.

The second annual Colorado Team Tournament will be held May 15 with nine four-person teams competing. Captains include Mel Yockstick, Allen Baptist, Rich Pintor, Tony Gentry, Joe Rossi, Don Schneck, Bob Snyder, Stan Bonnes and Don Wild.

Gerry Labbe from Denver has been a NHPA card holder for 56 years. Other pitchers with 30 or more years as members are Jim Tulk, 51, Larry Riley 46, Stan Bonnes 36, Robert Elgel, Harry Russell and Paul LaCrosse 35 each, Dick Wetherbee 34, Les Grosenbach 33 and Bob Beisemeier 32.

Players of the Year for 1998 in Colorado are Bob Blumenhein (Men), Joe Stencil (Elders), Cathy Hubert (Women) and Kevin Sturch (Juniors).

CONNECTICUT

The morning of Saturday, February 27 was crisp and in the 40s—typical of New England weather. Snow had covered the 16 courts at the New Haven Horseshoe Club for two days and some had to be cleared away. Frozen clay made it necessary to leave the rug covers in place—stuck solid to the clay.

Three dozen die-hard pitchers attended the 3rd Annual Frostbite Classic hosted by the New Haven Club and were ready for fun, food and drink. Following a breakfast of clam chowder, eggs, bacon and cheese sandwiches, pancakes, coffee (and maybe even an eye opener), the two-man teams were drawn and play began. The backdrops took a beating, but the fun was in being there.

The team of Don Beck and Ed Mancini took first with a 13-1 record, winning a packet of state lottery tickets. They didn't win a million. Afterwards, a contest was arranged in which pitchers threw four shoes for a buck at a stake hidden by a bucket-sized block of ice. Making two out of four, Don Beck won again.

FLORIDA

How many states have a mixed distance doubles championship as a part of the state closed Championship Tournament? Florida does and here is the way they run it—The mixed distance doubles team must consist of a 40 foot and a 30 foot pitcher. The 30 foot pitcher may be an elder, woman or a handicapped pitcher allowed to pitch at the shorter distance.

Teams are placed into classes according to their teams combined entering ringer percentages. They use cancellation scoring and 50 shoe games. The 40-foot players pitch against each other while the short distance tossers pitch 'em back. In the event of a tied game, the contest will continue with four more shoes, two by the 30 foot pitchers followed by two from the 40 footers, until a winner has been determined.

Many states might be interested in this type tournament. For further details, contact Marvin E. Grubb, FSHPA secretary-treasurer, 4540 Osceola Road, Titusville, FL 32780.

KENTUCKY

Lois Webster, from Richmond, is the last pitcher to claim a perfect game as she nailed a 40 shoe effort in November at Jack Freeman's Courts in Joelton, Tennessee. Cliff Baker was the victim.

It was the fourth perfect game in her pitching career. She had two in 1991, the first a 24-shoe game at Joelton against Dale Henry. Her second one was a 20-shoe game at Georgetown against Karl VanSant. Georgetown was the scene of her third perfect, a 24-shoe game against Tony Hankins.

There have been five 40-shoe perfect efforts pitched by women since records were first kept in 1941. Others were by Tari Powell in 1991 at Cayuga, Indiana against Karl VanSant; Cathy Carter in 1992 at Beloit, Wisconsin against Dale Lipovsky; Sue Snyder in 1994 at Edinburg, Indiana against Bob May; and in June last year Becky Kemper, the reigning World Champion, at Richmond against Cliff Baker. Poor Cliff, a victim twice.

ILLINOIS

Ed Flemming's Palmer Pitching Palace is ready. The Palace will have electric, yes electric scoreboards. The building ended up 60' by 96' and the ceiling in the center is 17-1/2' high and shoes started flying the middle of February.

Already Vic Long has started dreaming about pitching the first perfect game at the Palace.

Jack R. Stout wrote a three-page story *A Celebration of Life—Ralph E. Dykes 1913-1998* in the January issue of the *Illinois Court Reporter*, the newsletter on horseshoes for the state. The unusual story, which covered all the horseshoe action for the former NHPA President, had one basic thing in common in addition to naming all the awards Ralph had won through the years. The first letter of every word was capitalized. This must be a first in literary composition.

In spite of having a perfect game pitched against Cliff Baker by Kentucky's Lois Webster, the Illinois team of Baker, Jerry Dumstorff and Charlie Webb finished second in the Championship Class of the Music City Open.

Here's an interesting award and nice, too. Every time a person keeps score at the State Tournament, his/her name will be placed in a box, and the winning name out of the box will receive a small award. This item was to be voted on by the membership at the March meeting.

INDIANA

Indiana Regional Director Jim Shilling and wife Cam run an indoor pitching facility called Classic City Indoor Courts located in northeast Indiana. Nearly 100 pitchers compete in sanctioned leagues four nights a week.

Jim writes: "It has always bothered me when I hear about an off-season for horseshoe pitching. Here in Indiana we have four indoor facilities with a total of 18 pits that schedule 18 tournaments during the winter months. We have a total of 52 tournaments in the state for 1999, so the indoor facilities conduct over a third of these tournaments."

There is little said about indoor courts except the Jack Freeman Courts in Joelton, Tennessee. The cost of indoor courts is high. Shilling's place cost \$35,000 nine years ago.

Jim suggests that maybe we can get a list of all the indoor facilities in the nation, how many courts they have and other information. If you have indoor facilities, please drop Jim a line. For starters, they have Whiting, Shelby, Stroh and Classic City in Spencerville in Indiana, in Jackson, Michigan; Eldon Sarbaugh's at Adamsville, Ohio; ACHP in Lima, Ohio;

CHARTERCHATTER

Arledge Barn in Clarksburg, Ohio; and the OK Club in Cincinnati. In Colorado we have the Knaub Arena in Milliken and the Pitchin' Post in Commerce City.

KANSAS

Ed Harris traveled the most miles (452) to attend the Valentine's Mixed Open tournament. Ed hails from Avinger, Texas, which is just a few miles north of Longview. Longview is only 85 miles from Shreveport, Louisiana, so you can tell he put some miles on his truck coming in to visit his son and making a horseshoe weekend of it.

John Beat, Wichita, won the Saturday Class A event and Marvin Bray, Pittsburg took the Sunday session in Class A. John won't give any hint on how much he paid Mary Ann Peninger to go to Arizona so he would have a chance to win.

The Linwood Park courts were upgraded to NHPA specifications for short distance pitching. Thanks to the Wichita Parks Department work crew as well as City Councilman Phil Lambke for a job well done.

LOUISIANA

Ron Latiolais from Gonzales, Ken Stewart of Shreveport and Bob Rotach of Minden will be inducted into the LSHPA Hall of Fame at the State Convention in September.

John Wilson was inducted into the Hall of Fame last year. The list of his activities is endless. He is a 13-year member of the LSHPA, 15 plus years in the NHPA and State President from 1985 to 1992, NHPA Regional Director, instrumental in formation of the LSHPA Constitution and ByLaws. He originated the existing state newsletter and was instrumental in the design of the state logo.

A 20 member team will be selected to compete in the annual LA-MISS Challenge scheduled for Harahan October 24. Jack Atchley will extend invitations to the Louisiana members who would like to compete.

Burnie Williams is the Bayou Horseshoe Pitchers Association Class A champion. Al Dodson won Class B, Steve Scully took the Class C championship and Marilyn Scully won the Class D title. Steve Scully, Jr. was the Junior champion, and was selected Junior Player of the Year.

Marilyn was the Most Improved Woman (6%-19.8); Scott Scully was Most Improved man (16.6%-39.7). Sportsmanship awards went to Cathy Pandazzo and Chris Rogers. Rooke of the Year was Linda Dodson.

MARYLAND

The Baltimore Metro Horseshoe Club held its first Annual Indoor Tournament February 27, 1999, and it was endorsed heartily by those attending, who promised to return for Number Two.

Six divisions participated with Elbert Shifflet winning Class A, followed by Charlie Twigg in B, Steve Proctor (age 15) C, Bob McBride D, Clarence Burns E and Joe Shelton in F.

Adding to the upbeat event, the newly elected director of the Maryland and Delaware region, Don Lawyer, kept score for six hours. Don was accompanied by his lovely wife, Bonnie, who helped "pretty up" the place.

The tournament director Len Carson, did yeomans work putting together this fine event with considerable help from Larry Bunn, President Ron Bayer, Pamela and Don Edmiston, Les Heibler and others.

MICHIGAN

The Wolverine State—In addition to their regular officers: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer—has the following committee chairmen: Audit and Finance, Constitution/ByLaws, Grievance, Hall of Fame, Membership, Michigan-Ontario, Publicity, Tournament Directors, plus Statistician, NHPA Regional Director, Assistant Regional Directors and Game Related Sales. There is strength in numbers. They have it.

Class A winners during the indoor season include two victories by James Norville and Jim Wiltze. Virgil Rife, Ruth Rife and Larry Kemp each captured one.

Their *Ringier Report* is one of the few newsletters who include a copy of their constitution as part of their publication.

MISSOURI

Missouri again held pitching sessions for beginners. They hold these instructional sessions and help others with their game so they will not become discouraged and drop out of the sport. Those charters who have declining membership might institute similar programs to maintain or increase membership.

However, obtaining new members begins at the grass roots area, with clubs in all communities making a special effort to attract new members. A little newspaper publicity and a few posters in the right places could make a difference.

Clubs in the United States could follow the example of the New Melle Club, the largest in NHPA, who donated \$250 to the NHPF. *Chatter* realizes that many smaller clubs may not be able to match the donation, but could give a little. Every little bit helps.

It is interesting to note that many clubs in the state send in news to their state newsletter. Other charters could go a long way in increasing membership with special interest by clubs in their state.

MINNESOTA

Mark Baumann and Dale Lipovsky won the 1998 State Doubles Championship. Finishing second were Bev Nathe and Lu Cave.

Jerry LaBrosse reports that the state ordered a trailer to be converted into their traveling Hall of Fame display and it was scheduled to arrive in February.

One would think with all the world class pitchers coming out of Minnesota that the rate of perfect games would reach the dozens over the years. However, it is surprising that only three perfect games were pitched from the first one recorded in 1941 to the present time. It is amazing that the first one was pitched by a Junior in October 25, 1980 at Genola, the host for the World Tournament the next year. The Junior was Kirk Barnik and he pitched a 50-shoe perfect against Tom Holland. The next two "biggies" were pitched by a couple of

world class sisters, World Champions Phyllis Negaard and Bev Nathe. In 1997, Phyllis had a 20 shoe perfect against Jim Knisley, another top pitcher in Columbus, Ohio and September 1995 Nathe nailed a 14-shoe masterpiece against Ginger O'Brien. Negaard has won five World titles and Nathe was the top woman at the World in 1996 and 1997.

NEW JERSEY

The State's newsletter reveals some figures that no other

charter has published—membership by county. Of the 204 members, 46 are from Essex County, followed by 28 in Hunterdon, 25 in Gloucester, 21 in Warren, 13 in Morris and 12 in Somerset. The balance goes from nine to one.

Thanks to Frank and Ed McCrink, the Joe McCrink Sr. Memorial Tournament has an added purse of \$1,000 to be held on the Newark Courts. Joe, Sr. joined the NJSHPA in 1938 and was the top Class A pitcher for many years pitching the 1-3/4 and 1-1/4 turn with equal precision. Joe, with partner Sol Berman, won the state doubles 8 times.

The payoff for Class A is \$400 for first, \$200 for second and \$100 for third. Joe Sr. is father of the reigning State Champion, Joe McCrink.

Of the 204 members in NJ, 122 who did pitch in sanctioned tournaments, 17 played in only one. One pitcher competed in 23 and one hit the courts in 20. It so happens that 20 pitchers played in four.

NEW YORK

In 1998, the Syracuse Pioneer Horseshoe Club successfully completed its 15th season of pitching at the Fairgrounds. The Pioneers, again, had three eight-week leagues, Spring, Summer and Fall.

Veteran pitcher, Glenn Brown won first place in Class A in the Spring league. League director Lance Hinman finished second. High scratch totals went to Glenn Brown and Ken Fraser.

The Summer league saw Hinman and Brown exchange positions. "Bullet" Bob Wilsch had the top scratch total in Class A. Battling Glenn Brown rose to the occasion and won Class A in the Fall league. Two out of three first places isn't bad! Harry Dunbar, with a deadly flip shoe marched in and took second place. "Bullet Bob" had the high ringer game in Class A with a 76% effort in the Summer event. In the Fall Wilsch had a 78% high game.

Lance Hinman and Marge Phillips combined to win the High-Low Doubles. Rookie of the Year for Spring was Harry McIntyre, plus 6.77 over average. Bill Pendergast was the Rookie for Summer with a plus 5.51% and Laurie Fraser was plus 4.22 for Rookie honors in the Fall league. Stan Banner was the Sportsman of the Year.



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NORTH CAROLINA

State officers at their December meeting, decided to hold a special benefit tournament for the National Horseshoe Foundation (NHPF) with entry fee money going to the NHPF. The officers hope this becomes an annual event.

The state expects to send a record number to the World Tournament in Greenville, Ohio this year. The Darke County Horseshoe Club does great work and the City of Greenville is horseshoe friendly, having hosted other World Tournaments in the past.

The newsletter *Down and Back* reports that the membership will decide whether to have the statistician elected as a state officer. It is a way of showing support and thanks for a job well done. Missouri which had over a thousand members in 1998, has established their statistician as a state officer. Other states have them as members of the Board of Governors.

OHIO

Everyone knew that as a Junior pitcher in the early to mid '80s, four-time Junior World Champion and six-time Men's titleholder Alan Francis was going to be a "good one."

Francis pitched four perfect games as a Junior, two each in 1983 and 1984, and has added two more in the Men's Division, the last one in April of 1998 against Elwyn Cooper at New Melle, Missouri, a 26-shoe effort. Missouri must share his accomplishments before the present day Men's Champion moved to the Buckeye state.

Only one Junior pitcher, Jim Walters from Troy, has pitched a perfect game in World Competition. He did it in 1983 at Spearfish with a 24-shoe effort against Lucas Ives.

Opal Reno and Jim Knisley each have had two perfect games. Other "perfects" by adults include Amy Brown and Virgil Riff. In Junior competition Bob Allen, John Walters, Jim Walters (2) complete the overall list of Buckeyes in this select group.

OKLAHOMA

Association President Bob Reese met with John Seals of the Oklahoma Special Olympics at his request in November. Bob met with committee members and prospective horseshoe pitching coaches on the Oklahoma State University campus in Stillwater to acquaint them with our sport. They are adding horseshoes to the Special Olympics in Oklahoma during 1999. The coaches came from all sections of the state and may be contacting members about our sport.

George Murray of Arlington, Texas offered these facts about horseshoe pitching during the first Oklahoma-Texas Shootout when interviewed by a Channel 12 reporter: "Horseshoe pitching isn't for the money—that is a lesser aim for most of us. We throw the shoes to be in the company with the family of pitchers from all states...indeed in the World. Horseshoe pitching is a real friendly sport in a more laid back, relaxing and friendly atmosphere. Everybody is

friends. You are pitching against yourself as well as your opponent. It takes a lot of desire, practice and determination to get comfortable in the family atmosphere. The pace of competition is slow."

OREGON

The book *Daktari Yohana* written by Dr. John Hult, a Corvallis Club member, is going into its second printing. He has written about his experiences as a medical missionary in Tanganyika, East Africa from 1957-61. *Chatter* hasn't read the book as yet, but will soon.

Lee Wallace, state publicity director, writes about Bob Dunn, NHPA Promotion Director and fellow horseshoe collector and trader, who exhibited his collection of shoes at a tournament and collected over \$100 for the NHPF fund.

We have over 100 different horseshoe oddities we can display at tournaments. If such an endeavor leads to more NHPF fund money, we can accommodate you all. We're only taking approximately 300 pounds of horseshoes.

Bill Graham feels he can't give the time and effort required to perform the requirements of President of the OHPA and passes the gavel to 1st Vice President Lowell Davis.

TENNESSEE

As of February 28, Bernie Blaney and Joan Elmore are tied for the lead with 97 points for the 1999 Horseshoe Pitcher of the Year honors. Elmo Cox rests in third place with 95.

Jack Freeman has been receiving some replies following his request for ideas and suggestions about NHPF. He needs more ideas as to what you think and what the facility should become. Many think the NHPF should concentrate on supporting and improving the facility at Joelton, Tennessee.

Chatter believes improvement of the facility and making preparations for a World Tournament there in the future should be the primary concern at this time. All the extras, including the scholarships and club assistance could be shelved in favor of court improvement and the hall of Fame. For years now we have been collecting memorabilia for the Hall of Fame and it seems time our membership would appreciate the "Hall," which, along with the Grand Old Opry, would be an added incentive to come to Tennessee.

Some favored having the World Tournament at Joelton, but did not favor having it there every year. Many pitchers enjoy going to different places on their vacations.

UTAH

As usual, Cleo Wardle is the top or near the top in most of the final 1998 Top 20 lists. He won 114 games, 24 better than second place Mac Fuller. He is the top money winner with a total of \$286.50, a few bucks in front of second place Cal Sorensen with \$282.06. He is tied with Bud Schardine with a high game of 80% and finished fourth in overall percentage with 55.7%.

Mont Lewis topped all pitchers in ringer percentage with 61.8, followed by Shirley Steffen 61.2% and Schardine 59.2.

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 game of 82.4%. He was 7-0 to win the title!

CHARTER**CHATTER**

Klerisa Newby headed Juniors in average with 29.04%.
 Jodi King had 17.9%. King was the Most Improved with
 3.34% over last year's percentage.

Paul Rudy was the adult Most Improved nailing 15.4%
 improvement for the season. Second best in improvement
 was Verle Leavitt, over 8.6%.

The Summer Games Doubles was won by J.J. and
 Shirley Steffen with Shirley nailing the Summer singles
 Class A crown.

At the Annual SUHPA meeting, Gib Mitchell was pre-
 sented the 1997-98 Sportsmanship award.

WASHINGTON

Bernie Brooks and Bert Gravelle just naturally seem to
 know how to have fun pitching horseshoes. Friendly ban-
 ter goes on from the time they start until the game ends
 when they pitch each other and then sometimes when they
 pitch on adjacent courts it'll go on then, too.

It's pretty well established that in the championship
 classes things get pretty serious. Seldom is there much talk
 or fooling around. Burt was having a pretty good game, get-
 ting his share of ringers, but he was heard to say "If you can
 throw one, why can't you throw two?" Bernie said, "Well if
 you did, they'd put you up there in Class A where you
 couldn't have any fun."

Jim Quist is doing a service for the Junior horseshoe
 pitchers in the state of Washington that is being recognized
 all over the country. He raffles off lots of interesting "stuff"
 and donates the proceeds to the Junior fund. He donates
 all his prize money and matches contributions made by
 others to the fund.

It is a fund that provides financing to take Junior pitch-
 ers to World Tournaments.

WISCONSIN

The Wisconsin Horseshoe Newsletter, edited by Suzie
 Pritzlaff four years ago, was awarded the State Presidential
 Achievement Award by then President Dick Hansen.

Final percentages for 1998 have been released by Jim
 Haupt, the present editor of the Wisconsin newsletter.
 Clayton Gage from Milltown has pitched in 10 tourna-
 ments and has an impressive 80.6% in the short distance
 figures. Gert Wilcziek, Whitehall, is second with 75.8, fol-
 lowed by Ralph Maylahn, Genessee Depot, 74.9; Lorraine
 Sternberg, Richfield, 74.2; and Edie McKinney, Luck, 68.0.

Randy Rein, Mosinee, tops the 40-footers with 73.4%.
 Others in the top five are Don Kangas, Colgate, 69.8; John
 Udelhofen, Barneveld, 69.7; Kent Anderson, Barron, 64.4
 and John Crook, Spring Green, 60.7.

On a sad note, Camille Pritzlaff, 31, wife of Rick
 Pritzlaff, died of leukemia March 21. She is survived by her
 husband, two children and two stepchildren. Rick was the
 Wisconsin State Champion in 1977 and was President of
 the state charter nine years. Suzie Pritzlaff is Rick's mother.

THE TOLL OF TIME

EARL L. COLGAN

Aug. 15, 1910 - Feb 9, 1999

Born in Stark County, Illinois in 1910, Earl Colgan died in Bradenton, Florida on February 9, 1999. While 88 years old, Earl was an avid horseshoe pitcher and promoter of the game. Only ten days before his death, he had presided over the annual Earl Colgan Open Tournament which was pitched at the Manatee County, G.T. Bray Park.

After Farming for years in Wyoming, Illinois, Earl had enjoyed the past 26 winters in Bradenton, Florida where he had been a member since 1977. Active in Sanctioned League and NHPA Tournaments, Earl brought many new pitchers to the sport. He will truly be missed by those who knew and loved him.

JOHN JAY HAGERMAN

Long time member of the Northern California Charter, John Hagerman died January 4, 1999. John, who was born to a farming family in Linden, Iowa, left the farm at age 15 to work in the lumber camps of Washington State. At age 20, he returned to farming in Iowa where he met his wife of 72 years, Effie.

In 1942, the couple moved to California where John went to work in the shipyards of Marin County. After

the war, Hagerman became a very successful building contractor. He loved baseball, hunting and horseshoes. A member of the Sonoma County Club, Johns was a top pitcher for years and tournament winner in the Northern Charter. At age 95, John Hagerman passed on leaving his wife, a son, daughter, five grandchildren and eight great grandchildren.

FRANK KALLAY

The Western Pennsylvania Charter was saddened by the death of Frank (The Flipper) Kallay on February 21, 1999. Frank was a former NHPA Regional Director and State Executive Council member who died at the age of 61 from bone cancer. Prior to his failing health, Frank had been very active in the state supporting the game of horseshoe which he enjoyed so much. He played in many tournaments including several World's where he was always part of the noticeable cheering section for Pennsylvania pitchers. Frank will be missed by all his horseshoe pitching buddies and his loving family. He is survived by his wife Bette, two daughters and two grandchildren.

THURMAN MCKINNEY

Aug 9, 1931 - Jan 6, 1999

South Dakota lost long time horse-

shoe pitching enthusiast, Thurman McKinney when he passed away at his home in Piedmont, South Dakota on January 6, 1999. Born in Turin, Thurman was raised and educated on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation near Eagle Butte. A cowboy at heart, he worked as a cement mason while following his love of songwriting and being a musician. He had a zest for life, joining many civic organizations and playing golf and horseshoes. He won the South Dakota Men's State Championship in 1994 and was the father of current Women's State Champion, Carlene Donnelly.

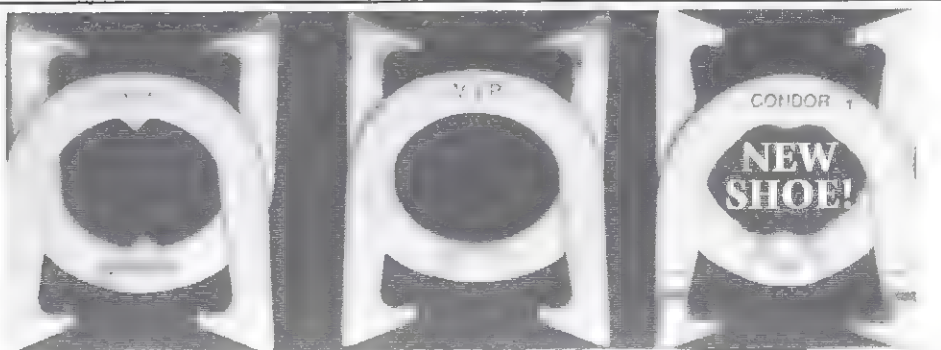
LOMAN TUMLIN

Loman Tumlin of Parkersburg, West Virginia, died March 22, 1999 at age 80. Born in Sherman, WV, he retired in 1978 from Union Carbide Metals. For 22 years, Loman had been a member of the NHPA and WVHPA. He was a member of the Wood County HPA where he was instrumental in the construction of a roof over the ten horseshoe courts in the Parkersburg City Park.

In 1998, Tumlin was voted into the WVHPA Hall of Fame. He is survived by his wife of 48 years, Janell, four sons, three grandsons and two granddaughters.

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MAY 1999

29-30 Music City Team Tournament—Joelton, TN. Up to 48 teams of 3 players, each team capped at 150 percentage points based on April 1 NatStat average. Entry fee \$105 per team, total payback of \$5,000 based on 48 teams. This is adult only event. However, a separate junior Team event will be scheduled on same days if sufficient interest and entries develop. Junior fees \$30 per team, prizes trophies only. All team entries and fees must be received by April 15th. Mail to Mary C. Bastian, 3730 Old Charlotte Pike, Franklin, TN 37069. 615-794-5620

29-31 18th Annual Head-of-the-Mon-River—Fairmont, WV. Max 150 entries will bring purse of \$5,000+. Registration \$25 adults, \$5 juniors, additional fee for Class A. Separate Men, Women, Elders, Sr. Men and mixed Jr. Divisions. Entry & fees must be postmarked by May 10 and sent to: Tri-County Horseshoe Club, 1133 Sunset Dr., Fairmont, WV 26554. Phone Bev or Catfish at 304-366-3819 or 304-282-4062

JUNE 1999

19-20 Oregon Open—Hermiston, OR, Weber Field. Separate 30 & 40 ft groups. \$4,000+ prize money. Entry fee \$20 (\$25 for championship groups). Pre-register by June 17th. Send entry and fees to Bob Rebman, Rt 4, Box 4694, Hermiston, OR 97838. Phone 541-567-3684.

25-27 Valley of the Rouge—Rouge River, OR. Mixed tournament, added purse of \$1,000+. Pitch two days. Entry fee \$35. Pre-register by June 22. Entry and fees to Charlie Anderson, 107 Ash Drive, Rouge River, OR 97537. Phone 541-582-1456

JULY 1999

10-11 Danville Open—Douglas Park, Danville, IL. Over \$1,000 added to entry fees plus free monogrammed towel to all pitchers. High % game award in each class. Total \$2,700 purse based on 96 entries. Pre-register by July 2nd. Entry fee \$16 includes scorekeeping. Checks payable to Danville H.C., mail to Leo Bratland, 41 Country Club Dr., Danville, IL 61832. 217-443-5818 or Martin Drummond, 765-793-4075.

19-31 NHPA World Tournament—Greenville, OH. Pre-register only on official NHPA form which must have postmark no later than May 13. Entry fee \$100 adults, \$25 juniors, scorekeeping fees included. Forms available Jan./Feb. *Newsline*, NHPA website, NHPA Secretary or Charter Secretaries. Mail form and check fee in U.S. dollars to NHPA, 3085 76th St., Franksville, WI 53126.

AUGUST 1999

16 Midwest Senior Classic—Iowa State Fair, Des Moines, IA. Mixed play Men and Women age 60 and over grouped by NatStat average. \$2,000 prize money based on 60 entries. Send for flyer/entry form to LeRoy Law 1788 N.W. 104th St., Clive, IA 50325

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If your tournament is set apart from the usual, to benefit charity, raise funds or has in excess of \$1,000 prize money, mail details to the *Newsline* Editor at least 90 days in advance.

NHPA Income and Expenditures February and March, 1999

Income

Membership Dues	\$37,247
Newsline Subscriptions	6,243
Newsline Advertising	3,263
Horseshoe Sanction Fees	500
Charter Dues Received	65
Misc Patch Sales and Income	70
Bank Checking & Affinity Card Interest	2,142
Total Income	49,530

Expenditures

Newsline Printing and Mailing	\$ 4,699
Newsline Editor Allowance	616
Sanctioned League Patches & Awards	143
Regional Directors Allowance	4,588
Regional Directors Postage, Phone, Supplies	175

Sanctioned Tournament Patches	195
Equipment Purchases, Rental, Repair	384
NHPA Office Printing and Supplies	462
NHPA Postage	843
NHPA Officers Phone	523
NHPA Officers Travel	352
Secretary/Treasurer Allowance	3,080
President's Allowance	924
Insurance	6,785
NatStats Administration	205
Special Events	301
Misc. Bank Charges, Refunds & Fees	65
Total Expenses	24,340



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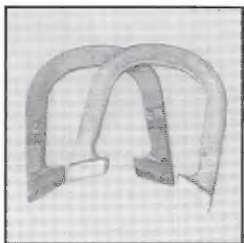
TOURNAMENT TRAVEL CONTACTS

The following is a list of all NHPA Regional Directors and the states or territory they cover. Those of you who travel and want to get out-of-area tournament information, are encouraged to contact the appropriate Regional Director. Each RD maintains a full list of all NHPA sanctioned tournaments in their area. If your travel plans call for stops in several states and you need multiple state information, you might want to write the NHPA 5th Vice President who is in charge of all RDs. He should have copies of all the state schedules. The address for the 5th VP can be found on page 3 of this publication.

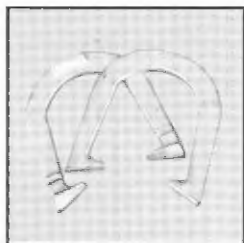
REGION	REGIONAL DIRECTOR
1. Washington	Rick Rebman
2. Oregon	80037 Rosa Lane
8. Idaho	Hermiston, OR 97838
	(541) 567-8560
3. Northern California	Gail Sluys
	1721 San Ramon Way
	Santa Rosa, CA 95409
	(707) 538-3128
4. Southern California	Dave Garbani
	317 E. Wilson Ave.
	Ridgecrest, CA 93555
	(760) 375-6376
6. Hawaii	John McCormack
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	(808) 689-8033
7. Nevada	Don Weaver
	2206 Sunnyslope Ave.
	Las Vegas, NV 89119
	(702) 736-7348
9. Utah	Bud Schardine
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	Springville, UT 84663
	(801) 489-6351
10. Arizona	Joe Kubiak
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	(520) 772-3242
11. Montana	Rich Paul
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	(406) 362-4659
12. Wyoming	Pat Bacus
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	Lovell, WY 82431
	(307) 548-6593
13. Colorado	Allen Baptist
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	Edwards, CO 81632
	(970) 926-3381
14. New Mexico	Charles Knotts
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	Logan, NM 88426
	(505) 487-2248

15. N. Dakota	Clint Bryson
16. S. Dakota	901 Custer St.
	Belle Fourche, SD 57717
	(605) 892-2195
17. Nebraska	Pat Wemhoff
	255 6th Ave., S.
	Columbus, NE 68601
	(402) 564-7323
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	Topeka, KS 66611
	(785) 266-4745
19. Missouri	Elwyn Cooper
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	Kansas City, MO 64152
	(816) 741-0043
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24. Iowa	C. Leo Buell
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	(319) 338-8256
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26. Alabama	1307 Clearmont St.
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27. Louisiana	Ron Latiolais
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	Cahokia, IL 62206
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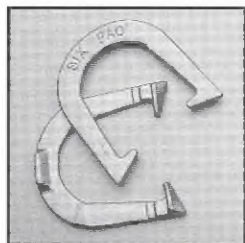
33. Tennessee	Dexter Stallings
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	(423) 947-7865
34. Georgia	Jerome Kennedy
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35. Florida	Ron Deckard
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36. Ohio	Dan Sanders
	6687 Merwin Rd.
	Columbus, OH 43235
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37. West Virginia	Ken Wilhelm
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	Clarksburg, WV 26301
	(304) 622-1265
38. Virginia	Ricky Hall
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39. Pennsylvania	Darle Esh
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40. N. Carolina	Rick Bolick Sr.
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	Lenoir, NC 28654
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41. S. Carolina	Ron Taylor
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	Clover, SC 29710
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42. Maryland	Don Lawyer
43. Delaware	730 Hitchcock Trail
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45. Maine	George St. Pierre
46. Vermont	26 Beacon St., Unit 38B
47. New Hampshire	Burlington, MA 01803
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48. Massachusetts	
49. Connecticut	
50. Rhode Island	
51. New Jersey	Ed Quigley
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	Pompton Plains, NJ 07444
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52. Alaska	Pete Imhof
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	Palmer, AK 99645
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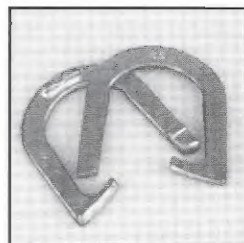
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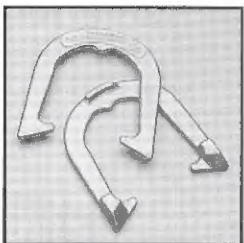
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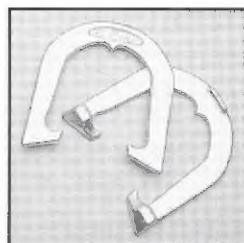
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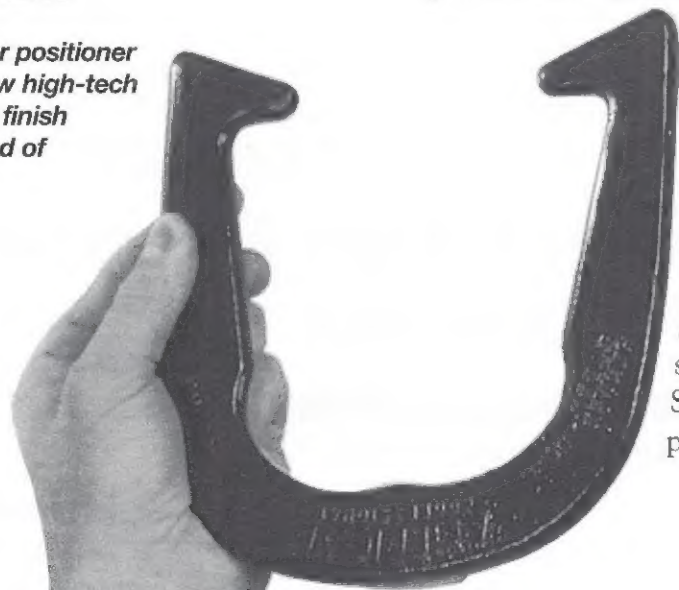
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